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FR 1-55

January 24, 1955

CURRENT RICE SITUATION IN ASIA

From a trade standpoint, the world rice situation as of January 1955 shows an improvement over that of a year ago. Generally speaking, just prior to the beginning of 1954, the rice trade, particularly in Asia, was almost at a standstill, with heavy stocks having accumulated in supplying areas. Prices were declining from the record high of 1952 and there was little assurance that they might not have to recede still further if a satisfactory volume of rice were to be exported in 1954.

While data are not as yet available for the rice trade in calendar year 1954, it is now evident that there was an appreciable gain over total exports of 1953. This increase in trade took place without too serious a decline in prices and at the same time a substantial part of the damaged and low-quality rice which was depressing the market as a whole was disposed of.

During 1953 Burma and Thailand, the principal Asian exporters, moved a total of some 2.3 million tons into nearby and other world markets. The ending stocks available for export from these two areas as of December 31, 1953, amounted to 4,100,000 tons. Preliminary estimates indicate that in 1954 a total of 2,500,000 tons were exported and that the exportable supplies as of December 31, 1954, were approximately 3,600,000 tons.

While the reduction in the carry-over stocks of rice in these countries is not too great, it must be noted that a considerable change in the make-up of such stocks has occurred. Much of the large quantities of the extremely low-quality rice that were on hand at the beginning of 1954 has been removed from the market, and to the extent that this has taken place, the situation has definitely improved. While decisions as to disposition of damaged stocks, and particularly broken grades, have been slow, both Burma and Thailand have moved substantial amounts as animal feed into Asia and Europe.

This is the fourth in a series of reports on the Asian rice situation by Dexter V. Rivenburgh, Rice Marketing Specialist, Foreign Agricultural Service. Mr. Rivenburgh's last trip to Asia was from October to December 1954. This analysis of rice marketing covers Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Okinawa, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Thailand, Burma, India and Pakistan.

This is a significant development because a large production of broken rice and other by-products in Asia is more than a temporary problem. The milling facilities in countries of the Far East are in most cases at least 50 years old. This produces a relatively high percentage of broken kernels. As long as rice was in scarcity, particularly in Asia, problems of disposal were not so acute. By-products, damaged rice, and "brokens" were handled as a part of "tie-in" sales.

As the supply situation improved, however, and rice prices dropped, consumer resistance asserted itself and stocks of poor-quality rice rapidly grew. A large production of broken grains may be expected until such time as more modern milling machinery can be obtained and therefore will be a continuing problem. To the extent that an appreciable amount of the smaller-sized "brokens" can be withheld from the milled-rice market and moved as animal feed or for industrial uses, the world market for edible rice will benefit.

The world rice trade is now in a transitional stage which will likely continue for some time. So it is necessary to consider problems that may be long-run as well as those of an immediate nature, particularly in connection with carry-over stocks. Without question, all rice-exporting countries of the world, and especially those of Asia, must face the problem of carrying larger supplies of rice than were necessary in the 8-year postwar period (until 1953) in which rice was in short supply in world markets.

Demand for higher grades of rice from Asian suppliers has continued strong, and, in 1954 as early as September, millers in some cases had difficulty in filling available orders for better grades. This was in spite of the fact that the prices of these grades had not declined much from the peak levels of 1952. With such conditions existing in September, it should be noted that about 4 months would elapse before stocks from the 1954 crop would become readily available for export.

On the other hand, the lower grades with percentages of brokens running from 40 to 50 percent have been very hard to move. This is a further indication of the validity of the assumption that a demand for better-grade rice was arising faster than Asian sources were able to supply. Probably the question of human nutrition and accessibility to adequate food supplies is now of greater concern in Asian governments than is the case in any other area of the world.

The 1954-55 rice crop of Asia will be less than last year. This reduction will occur in the Philippines, Thailand, India and Pakistan. The harvest was appreciably better in Japan, but still around 8 percent below a normal year. Burma's crop is expected to exceed that of last year, Korea's was about the same, while the Indonesian crop coming to harvest in the spring still has to go through the critical growing period.

From the standpoint of total export availability of Thailand and Burma, somewhat smaller supplies will be in sight during 1955. The progress made in both countries during 1954 in disposing of poor-quality rice, however, may offset the question of reduced supplies as far as the financial return is concerned.

Whether or not prices will hold to about current levels cannot be accurately forecast at this time. With respect to the volume of supplies, it would seem that any declines during the first 6 months of 1955 should not be too drastic. With present world stocks of other cereals at record levels, rice prices will be determined to a great extent by the volume and prices of cereals other than rice rather than by supplies of rice alone. With the adjustments that have taken place in 1954, importing countries are certain to drag out any negotiation involving prices in order to obtain further concessions if possible. This perhaps is particularly true of grades Nos. 5 and 6 here in the United States. Prices offered United States producers are quite likely to be lower than average prices obtained for the same grades in 1954.

Another important factor to consider is that a free commercial market for world rice exports cannot exist when the majority of the exporters of rice are operating under government monopolies. This causes some resistance to price cutting as such because of the direct relationship of total government revenues to profits accruing in rice-export transactions,

Supplies of United States rice are not expected to drive down the world price of rice to any extent. With Burma and Thailand potential suppliers of about 3 million tons of rice to Asian deficit areas compared with the United States potential of some 500,000 tons, it seems unlikely that United States sales, including those under existing surplus disposal legislation, would be much of a factor in depressing world rice prices.

Considerable apprehension exists among rice exporters, however, that world stocks of cereals other than rice will tend to still further lower rice prices. The population of the rice-importing nations outnumber those of the rice exporters. For the areas where net imports of food are necessary, any development toward lower prices for cereals as a whole will be welcomed. This arises from the standpoint of economizing in national budgets and from the desire to increase per capita consumption as well as to raise nutritional standards.

While the over-all situation in Asia with respect to rice has improved, the present position of the United States is certainly less favorable than it was a year ago. Asian destination contracts have been almost nonexistent for the first 5 months of the current rice-marketing year (August-July). This condition has not been brought about by a cessation of export demand. The enactment of surplus-disposal legislation and the subsequent period during which administrative procedures were being developed caused potential importers to delay procurement plans in order to see what effects the legislation would have on the market. This, coupled with the desire of importers to profit by all possible declines in 1954-55 rice prices, produced a stagnation of our export market to Asia up to January. So the market position of Asian and United States exporters reversed itself somewhat between the fall of 1953 and that of 1954, although for different reasons.

With excessive stocks of cereals other than rice on the world market, the present price-supply position is not indicative of a price rise in rice during 1955. At best it would seem more likely that prices of better grades continue at about present levels, while lower grades may decline to some extent.

Supplies of United States rice available for export to Asia will remain high throughout 1955, but may be reduced in subsequent years should acreage controls be enforced at 1955 or even lower levels. In general, the exporting countries of Asia will not materially increase rice production for the present, while rice-importing countries that are operating high-cost subsidies for domestic rice production may tend to reduce those subsidies in light of the recent trends of world rice prices.

Encouraging factors as far as the outlook for increased trade in rice is concerned are (1) the continuing rise in the populations of those countries dependent on rice in their diets, (2) the abolition of rationing, which many times brings increased consumption, (3) the gradual lessening of import and export controls, and (4) the desire of importing countries to build larger stocks of rice.

While the gain in the level of world rice production seems to be leveling off, at the same time demand may be rising, not only from a population increase but also from a more favorable price relationship between rice and other cereals.

The United States rice industry operates in the Far Eastern market on a very thin margin. The range between our rice prices and competitive prices in the world market is very narrow - so narrow, in fact, that fluctuations in freight rates alone are extremely difficult to overcome. As it becomes apparent that prices received by United States producers from exports to Asia will be less than the average return of 1954, operations of exporters will continue to be difficult. Further declines in world prices would still further reduce the possibility of United States rice moving to Asia.

The rice markets in Asia which seem to offer the best possibilities for the United States in 1955 are Japan, the Ryukyu Islands, the Philippine Republic, and possibly Indonesia. Although the movement of United States rice to Asia in the first 5 months of the current rice-marketing year has been reduced sharply, increased opportunities for export to the area undoubtedly will develop in 1955. These opportunities will depend upon the translation of the decisions of importing countries into commercial purchase.

The potential market for United States rice throughout the world does not appear materially lower than at this time last year, but the volume of trade will depend on the level of world prices of rice and other cereals.

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FR 2-55 February 14, 1955

THAILAND REVISES RICE EXPORT REGULATIONS

The Thailand Government as of January 1 repealed all existing regulations and procedures concerning rice exports and replaced them with a number of notifications to rice exporters which set forth the new regulations. These regulations are summarized for the most part in one of the notifications of the Ministry of Economic Affairs entitled, "Notification Re Rice Trade Regulations," as follows:

"No. 1.- Any person wishing to export rice shall register himself as a rice exporter at the Office of the Committee for the Observance of the Rice Trade Act, Internal Trade Department, on stipulated conditions.

"No. 2.- On each rice export, any person wishing to export rice shall apply to the Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Economic Affairs for a permit to export under the prescribed conditions.

"No. 3.- In obtaining a rice export permit, the person receiving the permit shall pay a premium according to the rate and methods and shall comply with the conditions laid down by the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

"No. 4.- A rice exporter shall surrender the foreign currency being the cost of rice according to the rate and methods fixed by the Ministry of Finance.

"No. 5.- The person receiving an export permit must make own acquisition of the rice to be exported as per permit as well as export duty and other expenses.

"No. 6.- After the rice has been exported, the Custom Department's evidence of such export shall be produced to the Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Economic Affairs, within 3 days counting from the day of export."

In addition, in accordance with the above procedures, the Foreign Trade Department, of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, set forth in a separate notification the conditions governing the application to export rice by private individuals. This section requires (1) the registration of rice-export firms, (2) that only established firms with foreign connections may register, (3) that such exporting firms must furnish guarantee covering payment of premiums and (4) that they must acquire and make available some rice in specified quantities and qualities for domestic consumption. This latter ruling reads as follows:

"The authorized rice exporter must reserve a quantity of rice for domestic consumption at the rate of 5 percent of the quantity permitted to export on the following basis:

"a) A person receiving a permit to export 10 percent and upwards broken rice, shall reserve 5-percent broken rice;

"b) A person receiving a permit to export 15-percent broken rice, 15 percent broken rice shall be reserved;

"c) Rice reserve is to be done by making out a Rice Sale Contract with the Rice Office according to the latter's purchase price.

"d) Upon delivery of rice at the rate fixed by the Rice Office, person making rice reserve shall pay a deposit to the Rice Office for compensation in case of a rice price-cut according to the regulations laid down by the Rice Office."

In another notification of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, dated December 31, 1954, and effective January 1, 1955, the conditions for the registration of rice exporters are laid down as follows:

"With reference to the . . . Notification . . . Re Rice Trade Regulations, No.1 (above), any person wishing to export rice must register himself as a rice exporter at the Office of the Secretary of the Committee for the Observance of the Rice Trade Act, Rice Control Division, Internal Trade Department, by following the conditions set hereunder:

"a) An applicant to register as a rice exporter shall produce to the Competent Officer the following evidences:

> "(1) Evidence showing the registration of a limited company or an ordinary partnership or limited partnership having an object to trade local produces with foreign countries.
>
> "(2) Having paid-up capital of ticuls 100,000 ($4,760) for those who have been exporting rice during the preceding 3 years, and ticuls 500,000 ($23,800) for those who have never exported rice before.
>
> "(3) List of names of the Board of Directors, name of managing director or manager in the case of a limited company; name of partner and manager in the case of a limited partnership or an ordinary partnership.
>
> "(4) Names of persons authorized to sign for such limited company or partnership.

"b) After receiving a license as a rice exporter, the licensed person shall render statement of account for every period of 10 days, that is, the 10th, 20th, and the last day of each month according to the prescribed form showing quantities of rice bought and sold by giving particulars of rice, quantity bought and sold of every case on the 10-day statement of period of account for submission to the Competent Officer within 3 days of each period.

"c) As regards to rice millers and rice wholesalers who have previously been exporting rice, the Foreign Trade Department will consider issuing licenses for the export of rice, but they shall apply for registration as per (a) within the 8th January 1955."

Determination of premium rates and methods of premium payment are set forth in a notification as follows: "With reference to No. 3 of the . . . Notification Re Rice Trade Regulations . . . The Ministry of Economic Affairs hereby lays down the rates and methods for the payment of premium when applying for rice export as follows:

"No. 1. Rates of Premium.- Rates of premium to be paid by rice-export applicants are as follows: a) Unbroken Rice, ticuls 400.00 per metric ton (86 cents per 100 pounds); b) Broken rice, ticuls 200.00 per ton (43 cents per 100 pounds); c) Compensation Rice: Unbroken rice, ticuls 200.00 per ton (43 cents per 100 pounds), and unbroken rice, ticuls 100.00 per ton (22 cents per 100 pounds). Compensation rice shall be exported before 30th April 1955. No export can be made after that date."

(The provision for payment of premium charges on "Compensation Rice" under subsection "c" refers to inducement quotas given millers prior to January 1, 1955. Under previous export regulations, rice millers were granted export permits for 1 ton of rice whenever they had declared 3½ tons of rice ready for export. Such permits are valid up to April 30 only, but holders of such permits now are subjected to a charge of 200.00 ticuls per ton (43 cents per 100 pounds) on white rice, and 100.00 ticuls per ton (22 cents per 100 pounds) on broken rice.)

"No. 2 Methods for the payment of premium.- The applicant for rice export must arrange for a promissory note to be made out by a commercial bank of an amount of the premium payable which has been checked by the Bank of Thailand and submit it to the Foreign Trade Department (of the Ministry of Economic Affairs), together with Rice Export Application Form.

"After the rice exporter having received payment for the rice, the Bank of Thailand will deduct the premium for payment to the Ministry of Economic Affairs according to the methods fixed by the Bank of Thailand."

At the same time, a notification of the Ministry of Finance, effective January 1, repeals all previous instructions with respect to the acquisition of foreign exchange and replaces them with the following provisions:

"(1) Exporters of rice . . . shall acquire the foreign currency proceeds of export either in pound sterling or in U. S. dollars as the case may be as follows:

"a) If export is made to countries in the Sterling Area, Pound Sterling shall be acquired.

"b) If export is made to countries other than those mentioned in a), United States dollars shall be acquired. If export made to a country which is a member of the Transferable Sterling Account Group, Pound Sterling may be acquired.

"In this connection, the Officer may issue an order granting specific exemption with or without conditions.

"(2) The foreign currency proceeds of exports as mentioned in (1) shall be sold to the Bank of Thailand at the rate determined by the Minister in accordance with Section 5 of the Exchange Control Act B.E. 2485, as follows:

"a) Rice

(1) 100% Unbroken Rice and 5% Broken Rice:	Sterling £30/- or U. S. $84/-per ton.
(2) 10%, 15% and 20% Broken Rice:	Sterling £25/- or U. S. $70/- per ton.
(3) 25%, 35%, 40%, 45% and 50% Broken Rice:	Sterling £10/- or U. S. $28/- per ton.
(4) Steamed Rice:	Sterling £10/- or U. S. $28/- per ton.
(5) Broken Rice Grade A:	Sterling £10/- or U. S. $28/- per ton.
(6) Broken Rice Grade C:	Sterling £5/- or U. S. $14/- per ton.

(7) Loonzain milled or cargo rice as per standard price (same as respective grades of white, or polished rice.)

"(3) If the Officer is satisfied with the statement made by an exporter, prior to the export, that the exports are not of the nature possible for him to acquire or there are causes making it impossible for him to sell such proceeds to the Bank of Thailand, to an authorized bank or to an authorized company or to sell it within 7 days from the date of acquisition or to acquire such proceeds in the foreign currency or by the method determined by the Officer, the Officer may issue an order granting specific exemption with or without conditions."

The surrender rates for U.S. dollars earned from sale of each metric ton of export rice in 1955 are compared with previous surrender requirements in the tabulation below:

Grades of Rice	Sum Surrendered at Official Rates-December 1954		Sum to be Surrendered at Official Rates 1955	
	Metric ton	100 pounds	Metric ton	100 pounds
100% White Rice	$170.80	$7.75	$84.00	$3.81
5/7% " "	151.90	6.89	84.00	3.81
10/12% " "	143.78	6.52	70.00	3.18
15/17% " "	135.38	6.14	70.00	3.18
20/23% " "	125.58	5.70	70.00	3.18
25/20% " "	122.36	5.55	28.00	1.27
Al Super Brokens	79.00	3.58	28.00	1.27
Al Special Brokens	75.60	3.43	28.00	1.27
Cl Special Brokens	58.80	2.67	14.00	.64
Cl Ordinary Brokens	56.00	2.54	14.00	.64
C3 Special Brokens	46.20	2.10	14.00	.64

The effect of new rice-export regulations on market prices is shown in the table that follows. Rice quotations are for January 1955, and are subject to revision at any time. These quotations include all costs to the purchaser. Only small quantities of the five highest grades listed are sold, these grades being extra quality rice. The heaviest exports are of 5 to 25 percent Government standard rice.

THAILAND: Rice prices, f.o.b. Bangkok, single bags, net shipped weight, December 1954, and January 1955

Grade	December 1954		January 1955	
	Metric ton	100 pounds	Metric ton	100 pounds
White Rice 100% No, I	$186.20	$8.45	$166.60	$7.56
" " " No. II	183.40	8.32	161.00	7.30
" " " No. III	177.80	8.06	155.40	7.05
" " " Seagull	168.00	7.62	155.40	7.05
" " 5% Seagull	156.80	7.11	144.20	6.54
" " 5/7% Government Standard	155.40	7.05	142.00	6.44
" " 10/12% " "	149.80	6.79	134.40	6.10
" " 15/17% " "	144.20	6.54	126.00	5.72
" " 20/23% " "	134.40	6.10	117.60	5.33
" " 25/28% " "	128.80	5.84	107.80	4.89
" " 30/33% " "	117.60	5.33	105.00	4.76
" " 35/38% " "	110.60	5.02	102.20	4.64
" " 40/43% " "	105.00	4.76	99.40	4.51
" " 45/48% " "	100.80	4.57	96.60	4.38
Broken Rice A1 Super	91.00	4.13	86.80	3.94
" " A1 Special	86.80	3.94	82.60	3.75
" " C1 Special	68.60	3.11	74.20	3.37
" " C1 Ordinary	65.10	2.95	71.40	3.24
" " C3 Special	65.80	2.98	67.20	3.05
Parboiled Rice	110.60	5.02	105.70	4.79

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 3-55

March 21, 1955

WORLD RICE PRODUCTION AT NEAR-RECORD LEVEL

The world 1/ rice harvest of 1954-55 (August-July) is exceeded only by the record crop of the year before, according to the second estimate of the Foreign Agricultural Service. Production currently is estimated at 261.7 billion pounds of rough rice, 2.7 percent less than the exceptionally good yield of 269.0 billion pounds in the preceding season. This year's output of rice is 17 percent above the postwar average (1945-46/49-50) period.

With the exception of a few countries in Asia, rice acreage generally in 1954-55 continued in the upward trend that began during World War II. The Asian acreage is still on a high level, although around 4 million acres below last year's record. Statistics in the accompanying table show that total acreage of the continents other than Asia has increased every year since 1951-52.

The decline this year in world production compared with a year earlier is the result of a smaller harvest in Asia, which represents 88 percent of the world crop, excluding Communist China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union. Production in all continents other than Asia again exceeds that of the preceding year.

The Indian rice crop appears to be better than average, despite heavy devastation from floods and drought in northeastern States at the time of planting. Acreage planted was less than in the unusually good season for rice in the year before, but yields in south India were high, and those in the flood areas were better than expected earlier in the year. Pakistan is expected to harvest a near record rice crop. Much of the rice lost in floods at the time rice was planted was resown, and yields in those areas have been reported good.

The latest estimate of Japan's 1954 rice harvest is around 3 percent less than indicated earlier in the season. Although production increased substantially over the small 1953 crop, and exceeded slightly average output during the immediate postwar period (1945-49), it was only 92 percent of the crop of 2 years ago.

1/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, averages 1945-46/49-50, annual 1951-52 to 1954-55 (August-July) 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA															
British Honduras	3	2	2	2	2	1,133	1,600	1,650	1,650	1,700	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4
Costa Rica	41	57	71	79	72	1,078	1,321	1,268	808	903	44.2	75.3	90.0	63.8	65.0
El Salvador	41	40	43	53	52	1,402	1,432	1,388	1,434	1,442	57.5	57.3	59.7	76.0	75.0
Guatemala	17	21	19	25	-	971	1,190	1,142	1,200	-	16.5	25.0	21.7	30.0	-
Honduras	31	28	27	30	-	735	714	907	833	-	22.8	20.0	24.5	25.0	-
Mexico	190	257	204	193	205	1,731	1,278	1,632	1,710	1,780	328.9	328.5	332.9	330.0	365.0
Nicaragua	28	31	50	78	35	1,286	1,384	1,514	962	1,571	36.0	42.9	75.7	75.0	55.0
Panama	124	162	169	196	203	1,169	1,168	1,211	1,249	1,084	145.0	189.2	204.7	244.8	220.0
United States	1,690	1,967	1,965	2,129	2,405	2,099	2,328	2,448	2,471	2,447	3,547.9	4,579.7	4,810.7	5,260.7	5,885.3
Cuba	114	145	156	209	225	1,075	1,772	1,776	1,794	1,556	122.6	257.0	277.0	375.0	350.0
Dominican Republic	100	113	133	131	137	1,207	1,265	1,217	1,244	1,241	120.7	143.0	161.8	162.9	170.0
Total	2,478	2,914	2,937	3,230	3,499	-	-	-	-	-	4,574.7	5,859.9	6,209.3	6,816.5	7,414.7
EUROPE															
France	7	40	54	48	44	2,586	3,582	3,685	3,169	2,955	18.1	143.3	199.0	152.1	130.0
Greece	9	48	53	43	55	2,167	2,573	3,119	3,358	3,455	19.5	123.5	165.3	144.4	190.0
Italy	305	386	430	433	436	4,357	4,534	4,767	4,711	4,656	1,328.9	1,750.0	2,050.0	2,040.0	2,030.0
Protugal	53	77	85	81	87	3,013	4,045	3,647	3,520	3,598	159.7	311.5	310.0	285.1	313.0
Spain	129	151	159	169	169	4,358	4,305	4,560	5,130	4,734	562.2	650.0	725.0	867.0	800.0
Total countries shown	510	709	788	781	806	-	-	-	-	-	2,098.3	2,994.7	3,465.9	3,506.6	3,498.0
Other Europe	49	109	134	155	189	-	-	-	-	-	103.2	235.0	260.0	330.0	370.0
Total Europe	559	818	922	936	995	-	-	-	-	-	2,201.5	3,229.7	3,725.9	3,836.6	3,868.0
ASIA															
Iran	544	476	544	618	620	1,598	1,653	1,708	1,780	1,871	869.3	787.0	929.0	1,100.0	1,160.0
Iraq	643	520	525	530	625	993	1,096	1,143	1,189	1,256	638.4	570.0	600.0	630.0	785.0
Syria	19	7	7	13	12	2,263	1,714	2,614	2,746	2,500	43.0	12.0	18.3	35.7	30.0
Turkey	56	75	121	124	115	2,905	2,869	2,598	2,902	3,166	162.7	215.2	314.4	359.8	364.1
Burma	8,500	9,620	10,080	10,070	10,200	1,235	1,420	1,444	1,357	1,449	10,500.0	13,664.0	14,560.0	13,660.0	14,780.0
Ceylon	950	1,010	988	1,102	1,170	1,263	1,188	1,265	1,311	1,231	1,200.0	1,200.0	1,250.0	1,445.0	1,440.0
India 3/	71,500	73,665	74,674	77,000	74,500	1,063	1,018	1,125	1,188	1,141	76,000.0	75,000.0	84,000.0	91,500.0	85,000.0
Indochina 4/	12,060	12,600	13,000	13,500	-	987	1,016	1,008	993	-	11,900.0	12,800.0	13,100.0	13,400.0	-
Indonesia	15,070	15,629	16,234	16,000	-	1,281	1,393	1,420	1,531	-	19,300.0	21,775.0	23,060.0	24,500.0	-
Japan	7,100	7,423	7,422	7,367	7,500	3,484	3,338	3,663	3,066	3,332	24,734.5	24,774.3	27,188.5	22.590.2	24,987.8
Korea	2,676	2,262	2,280	2,750	2,750	2,211	2,493	2,807	2,564	2,618	5,916.4	5,640.0	6,400.0	7,050.0	7,200.0
Malaya	831	799	825	822	850	1,362	1,518	1,901	1,766	1,824	1,132.1	1,212.7	1,568.2	1,451.4	1,550.0
Pakistan 3/	21,601	22,481	23,016	24,535	23,800	1,245	1,159	1,190	1,254	1,239	26,891.9	26,046.4	27,398.4	30,774.5	29,500.0
Philippine Islands 3/	4,909	6,388	6,561	7,216	6,986	992	977	1,056	972	964	4,872.0	6,238.7	6,931.4	7,015.8	6,736.2
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,638	1,955	1,931	1,947	1,930	1,829	2,270	2,339	2,597	2,539	2,996.7	4,438.4	4,517.5	5,055.5	4,900.0
Thailand	10,214	14,174	12,677	14,562	13,700	1,173	1,139	1,148	1,242	1,131	11,978.4	16,149.6	14,555.0	18,090.0	15,500.0
Total 5/	159,237	169,919	171,844	179,070	174,679	-	-	-	-	-	199,986.5	211,255.1	227,307.1	239,522.0	229,703.5

SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	102	139	151	155	155	2,674	2,758	2,837	3,019	2,839	272.7	383.4	428.4	468.0	440.0
Brazil 3/	4,290	4,628	5,000	5,400	5,600	1,423	1,396	1,260	1,278	1,393	6,105.7	6,461.9	6,300.0	6,900.0	7,800.0
British Guiana	97	114	153	140	-	2,343	2,183	1,856	2,107	-	227.3	248.9	283.9	295.0	-
Chile	79	62	78	72	74	2,578	2,845	2,618	2,619	2,973	203.7	176.4	204.2	188.6	220.0
Colombia	300	391	410	370	400	1,566	1,795	1,886	1,689	1,700	469.8	701.7	773.3	625.0	680.0
Ecuador	203	147	200	175	-	1,768	1,739	1,750	1,714	-	359.0	255.7	350.0	300.0	-
Paraguay	14	25	25	25	28	2,043	1,852	1,676	1,412	1,786	28.6	46.3	41.9	35.3	59.0
Peru	120	146	163	164	160	3,022	3,873	3,834	3,226	3,562	362.6	565.5	625.0	529.0	570.0
Surinam	41	47	49	50	-	2,490	2,706	2,435	2,542	-	102.1	127.2	119.3	127.1	-
Uruguay	29	32	33	41	-	2,855	3,250	3,509	3,105	-	82.8	104.0	115.8	127.3	-
Venezuela	50	83	97	88	135	1,100	1,145	1,134	1,023	1,222	55.0	95.0	110.0	90.0	165.0
Total	5,372	5,874	6,414	6,741	7,025	-	-	-	-	-	8,324.5	9,239.7	9,412.0	9,760.6	10,880.3
AFRICA															
Belgian Congo	342	402	406	410	-	813	930	958	962	-	278.0	374.0	389.0	394.6	-
Egypt	732	507	388	439	633	3,347	2,696	2,937	3,274	3,894	2,450.3	1,366.7	1,139.6	1,437.5	2,464.6
French Morocco	1	5	9	16	16	700	3,400	3,500	3,994	3,562	0.7	17.0	31.5	63.9	57.0
Madagascar	1,431	1,668	1,725	1,750	-	1,176	1,350	1,310	1,429	-	1,682.5	2,252.2	2,260.0	2,500.0	-
Total	7,315	7,764	7,798	7,959	8,144	-	-	-	-	-	8,013.0	8,161.0	8,019.3	8,761.0	9,549.8
OCEANIA															
Australia	31	36	35	39	40	4,042	3,556	4,757	4,359	4,500	125.3	128.0	166.5	170.0	180.0
Fiji	32	35	36	-	-	1,609	1,563	1,725	-	-	51.5	54.7	62.1	-	-
Total	98	107	107	113	112	-	-	-	-	-	212.5	221.7	268.6	271.0	277.0
World total 5/	175,059	187,396	190,022	198,049	194,454	-	-	-	-	-	223,312.7	237,967.1	254,942.2	268,967.7	261,693.3

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Planted acreage. 4/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 5/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and U.S.S.R.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

Drought in Thailand is reported to have reduced the 1954-55 production about 15 percent from the year before. Acreage planted was expected to be about the same, but lack of rain, especially in north-eastern areas, resulted in some acreage loss, with the result that the over-all yields were less than average. This smaller harvest should have an important effect on Thailand's disposal problem in connection with accumulated exports supplies from the 1953-54 rice crop as a result of reduced export in 1954.

On the other hand, very good rice yields in Burma resulted in the production of the largest rice harvest in postwar years. As a result of relatively large exports in 1954 and existing contracts with importing countries, however, the problem of rice-surplus disposal in Burma is not as acute as in Thailand.

Favorable weather for rice in South Korea in the third successive year resulted in a record crop from an area indicated to be about the same as in the year before. Taiwan is expected to produce a near record harvest, almost as large as last year's peak output. Drought in the Philippines during the planting season prevented the sowing of all the inteded acreage. Rice production therefore was 4 percent less than in the year before. Dry weather in some areas of Malaya prevented the planting of intended increases in rice acreage, yet the acreage is the third largest on record. Droughts reduced the production below original expectations. Ceylon is continuing to increase rice acreage, and production this year may approximate the record of the year before.

The rice crop of Europe is only slightly larger than the preceding year's record, and about 75 percent more than in the postwar average period. Moderately reduced harvests in the two principal producing countries of Italy and Spain, and also in France, were offset by increases in Greece and Portugal. Although the rice acreage of Italy and Spain was maintained at last year's record level, unfavorable growing weather resulted in reduced yields.

Rice acreages in Greece and Portugal were substantially above the preceding year's reduced area, and only slightly larger than the previous record of 2 years earlier. In addition, per acre yields were substantially above average.

Increased availability of water in Egypt from the Nile River permitted the planting of the largest area in rice in 4 years, and unusually high yields resulted in a crop slightly above the high level of the postwar average period.

Prospects indicate the Western Hemisphere will produce another record rice crop this season. The second estimate of the 1954-55 crop places production at 18,300 million pounds of rough rice compared with the previous largest harvest in the year before of 16,600 million pounds, and the postwar average (1945-46/49-50) of 12,900 million pounds. This will be the fourth successive year in which a record rice crop will be produced.

Most of the North American rice crop has been harvested. Despite a downward revision in the production of the United States, which accounts for about 80 percent of the North American output, a record rice harvest is being completed in North America in the fifth successive year.

A harvest in Mexico 11 percent above last year is larger than was expected earlier in the season because of gains in the acreage of Sinaloa State. Production increased also in Dominican Republic and El Salvador. Rice acreage in Cuba was larger than in 1953, but yields per acre were less than in recent years. Despite the harvesting of lower yields, a near record crop is being produced in Cuba, smaller only than that of last year.

Current prospects are that the South American rice crop will exceed that of a year earlier. Acreage in Brazil was expected to increase again, and so far drought conditions such as prevailed in the 2 previous years have not been reported. With a harvest of only average yields, a record crop should be produced.

Dry weather in Peru prevented the planting of all the intended rice acreage. Although production will be larger than last year's poor crop, it probably will be less than the record of 2 years ago. New rice projects in Venezuela resulted in a marked increase in rice acreage, and as a result of unusually good weather better-than-average yields per acre were realized. Rice production increased in Colombia, Chile and Uruguay. The crops of Argentina and possibly Uruguay, however, are expected to show a moderate decline.

The rice acreage of Australia is about the same as last year, and growing conditions so far have been reported satisfactory.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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FR 4-55

April 11, 1955

PHILIPPINE RICE REQUIREMENTS

In view of the decrease in the 1954-55 rice crop of the Philippines, that country undoubtedly will have to continue to import rice in 1955 to supplement local production. While the Administration is encouraging the people to mix corn with rice to meet consumption requirements, this mixture has not proved popular among rice consumers. There has been considerable Philippine interest in importing United States surplus rice under P.L. 480.

The 1954-55 rice harvest is estimated at 6,736.2 million pounds of rough rice, according to a November-December 1954 field survey of the Philippine Division of Agricultural Economics. Nearly 60 percent of the crop, or 3,970 million pounds, was produced in Luzon, 22 percent in Visayas, and 19 percent in Mindanao. The decline in the total 1954-55 crop compared with the preceding harvest amounts to 380 million pounds of rough rice, or 85,000 metric tons in terms of milled rice.

PHILIPPINES: Rice (milled) imports, averages 1935-39 and 1947-49, 1951-1954

Country of origin	Average		1951	1952	1953	1954
	1935-39	1947-49				
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
United States	1/	115	0	7	0	0
Burma	0	17	0	66	0	0
Ecuador	0	37	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	13	0	0	0	0
Indochina	76	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	0	7	0	0	0	0
Thailand	36	90	241	66	0	33
Pakistan	-	0	0	0	0	61
Others	5	8	0	0	0	0
Total	117	287	241	139	0	94

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
Compiled from official sources and Embassy reports.

Milled rice imports in 1954 came to 94 million pounds, imported from Pakistan and Thailand. This was low-quality rice, imported during the latter part of 1954 for the primary purpose of checking the upward trend in rice prices. The price increase was the result of reports of an impending rice shortage due to an expected decrease in supplies from the new crop.

PHILIPPINES: Amount and cost of rice imports, by country of origin, 1954

Date of arrival	Country of origin	Volume		Cost		Terms
		Metric tons	100 pounds	Dollars per Metric ton	Dollars per 100 pounds	
October 12	Thailand	5,000	11,023	106.70	4.84	C&F Manila
October 30	Pakistan	10,000	22,046	103.90	4.71	Delivered to NARIC warehouse
December 14	Pakistan	10,000	22,046	107.90	4.89	
December 18	Pakistan	7,500	16,534	104.44	4.74	
December 19	Thailand	5,370	11,839	98.75	4.48	C&F Manila
December 26	Thailand	2,405	5,302	98.75	4.48	" "
December 29	Thailand	2,225	4,905	99.50	4.51	" "
Total 1954		42,500	93,696			

Of the 33 million to 44 million pounds of rice negotiated to be re-exported to Japan in 1954, only 15 million pounds actually were shipped. This shipment was made during April. The rice was part of the 1952 imports from Burma and Thailand which reportedly were deteriorating in NARIC warehouses. Re-exportation of rice to Japan, intended primarily for industrial uses, was stopped when it was found that a large percentage was still edible.

An announcement was made on January 27 by the Health Secretary that starting February 1, 1955, "it shall be unlawful to sell, exchange or deliver rice that has not been enriched." This order applies to Manila and the suburbs of Pasay City, Quezon City, Dagupan City and the Province of Rizal. The Secretary stated that the measure is in compliance with the Rice Enrichment Law and proclamations of the President calling for a gradual enforcement of this health measure throughout the country; the law is already in effect in some areas, and will be implemented in additional provinces as fast as necessary enriching facilities are installed in rice mills.

The procedure for enriching rice consists in preparing rice at a central plant with artificially introduced vitamins in concentrated form. This highly vitamin-re-enforced rice is then shipped to rice mills where it is mixed with farm rice as it is milled, so that the end product contains a much greater percentage of vitamins than it would have if it were not enriched.

The President of the Food Enrichment Enterprise has announced that his firm has leased all necessary facilities for the manufacture and distribution of pre-mix rice, the fortified cereal used for enrichment. He stated that his firm has an effective distribution system which will eventually assure every town of at least one retailer to supply the fortified cereal. He also explained that the pre-mix rice can be mixed with ordinary rice in the ratio of 1 to 200, and the end product will cost the consumer no more than 3 cents a day to supply the daily anti-beriberi and anti-anemia needs of a family of five.

The average retail prices of milled rice in 1954 for first and second class Macan were 8.9 cents and 8 cents per pound, respectively. These prices were moderately lower than the average price of 9.4 and 8.6 cents per pound for the two classes, respectively, during the preceding year. After registering the lowest price in postwar years at the end of the first quarter 1954, prices moved upward again at the start of the second quarter.

PHILIPPINES: Average monthly retail prices of milled rice in Manila, per pound, 1953 and 1954

Month	Wagwag first class (long-grain)		Macan first class		Macan second class	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
January	12.4	11.8	10.9	8.9	10.2	8.0
February	12.1	11.4	9.5	7.7	8.7	7.3
March	11.9	11.4	9.2	7.7	8.4	7.3
April	11.9	11.4	9.2	7.9	8.4	7.5
May	11.9	11.4	9.2	8.4	8.4	7.9
June	11.9	11.4	9.2	8.7	8.4	8.2
July	11.9	11.4	9.2	9.1	8.4	8.6
August	11.9	11.5	9.2	9.5	8.4	8.9
September	11.9	12.4	9.2	10.8	8.4	unquoted
October	11.9	11.9	9.2	10.5	8.4	8.4
November	11.9	11.9	9.2	10.4	8.4	8.4
December	12.0	11.9	9.6	9.5	8.8	8.4
Average	12.0	11.7	9.4	8.9	8.6	8.0

Source: Bureau of Commerce

While the average wholesale and retail prices of milled rice for the 12 months of 1954 were lower than in 1953, the average price of rough rice was slightly higher. The average price paid to farmers for rough rice (palay) in 1954 was $4.51 per 100 pounds delivered at Cabanatuan as compared with $4.42 per 100 pounds in 1953. (Cabanatuan is the principal marketing center of rough rice in Luzon, while Manila is the main center for marketing milled rice.)

PHILIPPINES: Price to producers, rough rice, 1953 and 1954

Month	Rough rice			
	1953		1954	
	Pesos per cavan	Dollars per 100 pounds	Pesos per cavan	Dollars per 100 pounds
January	8.78	4.50	7.40	3.79
February	8.67	4.44	6.72	3.44
March	8.45	4.33	7.04	3.61
April	8.45	4.33	7.48	3.83
May	8.72	4.47	8.24	4.22
June	8.87	4.54	8.61	4.41
July	8.74	4.48	9.00	4.61
August	8.50	4.35	9.63	4.93
September	8.50	4.35	10.83	5.55
October	8.80	4.51	10.65	5.45
November	9.00	4.61	10.11	5.18
December	8.14	4.17	10.00	5.12
Average	8.64	4.42	8.80	4.51

A new price-support program for the rice industry was launched by the Government in mid-November 1954, intended to counteract the move of alien merchants to depress the price paid to farmers, and guarantee a minimum price to farmers. Under this plan the rice producers are assured a price of at least $3.58 per 100 pounds of rough rice. If local dealers do not pay this price, the Government will buy the rice. Under the new floor-price system, the Government will buy palay (rough rice) at $4.35 per 100 pounds for Ordinary Macan, minus the cost of transportation from the buying area to Manila. The Government has made available $14,900,000 to sustain this buying program which was submitted by the NARIC.

One of the major problems in rice marketing is that of providing adequate distribution facilities. Means by which surplus rice-producing areas can directly supply rice to deficit areas, thus minimizing transportation and handling costs, have been partially worked out by the NARIC. In the past, the NARIC has brought rice to Manila from producing provinces, and reshipped it to other provinces frequently adjacent to the provinces where the rice originated. This increased the selling price of such rice.

Note: 1 cavan = 44 kilograms, or 97 pounds.

Based on a report from the Philippine Embassy, Manila.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
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JAPANESE RICE IMPORTS

Provisional plans of the Japanese Government in fiscal year 1955 (April 1955-March 1956) include rice imports of 1,195,000 metric tons in terms of brown rice (1,123,000 tons milled), according to a report by Joseph C. Dodson, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Tokyo. Japanese officials believe that an import at this level will permit maintenance at the present consumer ration.

The Japanese Government continues to base its food policies on increasing the consumption of wheat products and keeping its import of rice to minimum levels. This minimum annual requirement for import in terms of brown rice is around 1,000,000 to 1,200,000 metric tons (converted to terms of milled at 94 percent.)

JAPAN: Import program for rice and wheat under the 1954 1/ and 1955 2/ fiscal year budgets

Commodity	First half (April-September)		Second half (October-March) 3/		Total fiscal year (April - March)	
	1954	1955	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
	(1,000 metric tons)					
Rice	506	692	469	503	975	1,195
Wheat	850	4/ 1,280	908	1,000	1,758	4/ 2,280

1/ Decided on March 31, 1954, for fiscal year April 1, 1954, to March 31, 1955. 2/ Decided on March 31, 1955 for fiscal year April 1, 1955 to March 31, 1956. 3/ Subject to substantial revision. 4/ Including 50,000 metric tons of animal feed.

Source: Minister of International Trade and Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Under the official supply and distribution program of the fiscal year just ended (April 1954-March 1955), a reduction of about 265,000 metric tons in terms of brown rice was planned from the rice imports of 1,541,000 tons in the preceding fiscal year Only slightly lower rice supplies for consumption were to be achieved by a substantially larger collection from the 1954 crop than from the small 1953 harvest. This was possible despite an initial carryover of about 200,000 tons less than in the year before. Collections of indigenous rice increased by about 460,000 tons of brown rice from the 1953-54 fiscal year.

For the Japanese rice-marketing year 1955 (November 1954-October 1955), total rice supplies are estimated to be slightly less than in the preceding year. Imported rice will constitute 1,278,000 metric tons and indigenous rice, 3,336,000 tons. This is a lower ratio of imported rice in the utilization program than last year, which indicates a return to the previous pattern of rice import of around 1 million tons. Rice imports in the 1953-54 marketing year (November-October) were heavy because of the small 1953 rice crop.

Japan's 1954 rice crop, harvested principally in September-October, is estimated at 9,113,000 metric tons of brown rice. This is 11 percent higher than the 1953 outturn of 8,238,570 metric tons. Early in the season weather was similar to that in 1953 - with abnormally low temperatures and heavy precipitation. This condition continued until late July, when dry, hot weather rapidly improved plant condition. The preliminary estimate of production, issued in October, indicated an outturn of about 9,550,000 metric tons. During October, however, temperatures again fell below normal and the grain in many areas failed to mature properly. Typhoon damage in September also affected the crop.

The quality of rice from the 1954 harvest to be consumed from November to October 1955 was slightly better than the 1953 product, as indicated by grades delivered to the Government.

Officials of the new Government have announced that they are considering a change in rice controls to provide for contracting with farmers for delivery of rice to the Government instead of the compulsory delivery quotas now in effect. Though it is difficult to forecast the effect such a move would have on rice collections, a decline is considered likely. The Government probably will continue the consumer-ration program.

Calendar Year Trade

During calendar year 1954, Japan's rice imports rose sharply. Total imports were 1,406,000 metric tons, an increase of 29 percent over 1953. Import arrivals began a sharp upward climb in December 1953 and continued well above normal through May 1954. Thereafter arrivals declined and were below average in the latter part of the year.

JAPAN: Rice import arrivals, by month, 1953 and 1954

Month	1953	1954	Month	1953	1954
	Metric tons	Metric tons		Metric tons	Metric tons
January	80,718	201,212	July	83,795	91,244
February	63,740	160,520	August	98,305	64,431
March	57,655	206,958	September	29,763	84,546
April	125,874	294,022	October	32,914	24,877
May	148,118	161,002	November	55,519	22,512
June	107,430	83,323	December	202,996	11,768
Subtotal	583,535	1,107,037	Total	1,086,827	1,406,415

Compiled from trade sources.

Thailand was the principal source of imported rice, as it was in 1953. Imports from the United States doubled those of 1953, when they were held down by export controls. Burma ranked as the third major supplier also with a sizable increase over 1953.

Rice imports from the United States in 1954 of 343,836 metric tons were composed of 172,073 from California, and 171,763 tons from southern states. This compares with total imports in 1953 from the United States of 179,580 tons, with 102,676 tons from California and 76,904 tons from southern states.

There were significant changes in the import pattern from other sources. Imports from Italy and Spain, both suppliers of short-grain rice, rose substantially. For the first time Communist China became a source of rice for Japan, while Pakistan and Taiwan declined as suppliers.

JAPAN: Rice imports in terms of milled, by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1950-54

Country of origin	Average 1935-39 1/	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954 2/
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
United States ...	3/	51,156	40,595	234,254	179,580	343,836
Thailand	30,845	328,686	253,987	317,219	435,760	371,799
Burma	907	145,067	160,771	126,006	191,785	320,354
Taiwan	693,550	0	71,179	61,283	54,017	36,800
Italy	0	0	8,414	108,374	27,620	68,000
Egypt	0	24,344	174,248	0	0	0
Korea	1,199,310	89,659	3/	0	0	0
Spain	0	0	0	46,805	38,413	58,877
Pakistan	0	0	3/	6,695	54,361	23,535
Iran	0	0	0	1,323	20,388	0
Portugal	0	0	0	1,392	9,594	0
Mexico	0	9,951	0	2,000	0	0
Nicaragua	0	0	0	1,158	3,710	2,748
Ecuador	0	0	0	26,316	0	28,433
Uruguay	0	0	0	4,412	0	9,668
Peru	0	0	0	0	9,712	21,754
Brazil	0	0	5,944	0	3,000	0
Argentina	0	0	0	0	2,384	3,730
Australia	0	0	4,873	3/	0	0
Indochina	4/	0	0	0	49,299	41,668
Communist China .	0	0	6,838	3/	0	44,625
Turkey	0	0	0	0	5,271	0
Belgium Congo ...	0	3,114	1,514	0	0	0
Ceylon	0	0	0	0	0	30,588
Other countries .	907	19,563	64,794	41,283	1,933	0
Total	1,925,519	671,540	793,157	978,520	1,086,827	1,406,415

1/ Largely brown rice. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 tons. 4/ If any, not separately reported.

Compiled from official and trade sources.

Import arrivals during early 1955 continued at a low level. Total imports of January and February 1955 came to only 71,362 metric tons as compared with

361,732 tons in the corresponding months of 1954. Amounts and sources of these imports were 48,000 tons from Taiwan (Formosa), 17,432 from Communist China, and 5,930 tons from Thailand.

JAPAN: Rice imports, January-February 1954 and 1955

Source	1954			1955		
	January	February	Total	January	February	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
United States						
California	36,617	17,463	54,080	0	0	0
Southern	26,920	21,661	48,581	0	0	0
Subtotal	63,537	39,124	102,661	0	0	0
Taiwan (Formosa)	3,800	0	3,800	23,700	24,300	48,000
Thailand	57,947	33,881	91,828	800	5,130	5,930
Burma	15,365	0	15,365	0	0	0
Pakistan	8,278	8,479	16,757	0	0	0
Indochina	21,874	19,794	41,668	0	0	0
Ecuador	28,433	0	28,433	0	0	0
Peru	1,978	9,900	11,878	0	0	0
Ceylon	0	30,571	30,571	0	0	0
Spain	0	8,971	8,971	0	0	0
Italy	0	9,800	9,800	0	0	0
Communist China	0	0	0	0	17,432	17,432
Total	201,212	160,520	361,732	24,500	46,862	71,362

Compiled from trade sources.

Government stocks of imported rice, however, became scarce by the end of December 1954 due to the suspension of import purchases from August through December, in connection with the "yellow rice" problem. This forced the Government in January and February to ration in advance the indigenous rice which was scheduled to be rationed in later months. In order to make up for the shortage of indigenous rice thus consumed, imports for the first half of 1955 have been increased by about 190,000 tons as compared with the same period in 1954. The breakdown by sources has not been decided.

Summary of Recent Negotiations

Japan's rice purchases from foreign countries during 1954 were slightly less than 1 million metric tons. Thailand again was the principal country of origin, followed in order of volume by Burma, Taiwan (Formosa), the United States, and Communist China. Toward the end of the year, some agreements were negotiated for rice to be imported in 1955.

A new trade plan was negotiated between Japan and Thailand late in 1954, fixing an import target of 400,000 metric tons of high-quality rice, containing not more than 10-percent broken content and no infestation and harmful bacteria. Under these stipulations, the amount actually imported is not likely to be considerably greater than 300,000 tons.

JAPAN: Commitments for imports of milled rice, by source, and by semester, 1954

Country	January-June	July-December	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Burma	300,000	0	300,000
Thailand	320,000	0	320,000
Taiwan (Formosa)	30,000	64,000	94,000
United States	74,749	17,500	92,249
Communist China	5,500	60,600	66,100
Italy	24,000	10,000	34,000
Spain	30,000	0	30,000
Iran	13,500	0	13,500
Uruguay	0	10,000	10,000
Philippines	6,600	0	6,600
Total	804,349	162,100	966,449

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Japan and Burma at the end of 1954 reached an agreement on a rice-trade program for 1955. Japan agreed to buy 220,000 metric tons, with shipment to be made before the end of June.

Communist China's position as a supplier of rice to Japan apparently will continue in 1955. Japan in December 1954 purchased 35,000 metric tons, and in February bought another 15,000 tons. There is considerable sentiment in Japan for increasing trade with Communist China, and rice is one of the principal commodities which the Chinese are offering.

In view of the trade program between Japan and Taiwan, it is likely that Japan will continue to purchase sizable quantities of Taiwan rice. Conclusion of a purchase agreement between Japan and Korea has appeared imminent on several occasions, but has failed to materialize, apparently due to difficulties with respect to price. According to press reports, Korea has asked $185 per metric ton ($8.39 per 100 pounds), and it is understood that Japan is unlikely to pay this price.

Prices paid for imported rice during 1954 showed a downward tendency. Short-grain rice from Taiwan (Formosa) which was priced at $212 per metric ton ($9.62 per 100 pounds) C&F in March declined to $175 per metric ton ($7.94 per 100 pounds) in December. Medium-grain rice from Burma was bought under a trade agreement at a fixed price of $140 f.o.b. ($6.35 per 100 pounds) in the early part of the year, and there were no shipments received from Burma during the second half of 1954. Short-grain rice from Communist China was purchased in August and December at $157 to $160 f.o.b. per metric ton ($7.12-$7.26 per 100 pounds).

The Japanese Food Agency on February 1 announced new regulations on the purchase conditions for imported grains. The chief feature is the substitution of "landed inspection" for "loading inspection." This change was brought about chiefly by the problem encountered in 1954 with the so-called "yellow rice." The Food Agency apparently believes that the quality of the grain obtained by Japan will be improved if it is purchased on the basis of inspection at time of unloading.

Under these new regulations, if the grain on arrival and inspection is found to be below the standards provided in the contract, the prices paid to the importers will be reduced. In order to carry this out, it is understood that the Food Agency will make payment to the importers at the time of contract of about 90 percent of the C&F price, reserving about 10 percent until the grain is inspected at the unloading port and found satisfactory. This provision will not, however, discontinue the previous system of obtaining inspection certificates at the loading ports, which the importing firms must continue to furnish to the Food Agency.

Early in March 1955 the Food Agency reorganized the designation of trading firms authorized to import rice, increasing the number of authorized firms. The announced purpose of this move was to strengthen the business activities of the importers by increasing their number. A feature of interest in connection with United States exports to Japan was the combining of authorized importers from California and the southern states. Previously there had been a separate group authorized to import from each of these areas. Under the new plan, 14 trading firms are authorized to import United States rice.

JAPAN: Prices paid for imported rice, by month and by source, 1954

Month	Source	Type, grade and terms	Price	
			Dollars per	
			Metric ton	100 pounds
January	Burma	Nghsein SMQ, 38% broken, f.o.b.	140.00	6.35
February	U.S. California	No.5, undermilled, 35% broken, C&F	198.80	9.02
	U.S. Southern	No.6, milled, 50% broken, C&F	189.80	8.61
March	U.S. California	No.5, undermilled, 35% broken, C&F	187.90	8.52
	Italy	White rice, 30% broken, C&F	185.00	8.39
	Taiwan	Bon-rice, C&F	212.00	9.62
April	Burma	Nghsein SMQ, 38% broken, f.o.b.	140.00	6.35
	Iran	Champa rice, C&F	162.00	7.35
May	Thailand			
	Government	Glutinous, 10% broken, f.o.b.	151.00	6.85
	Government	Glutinous, 15% broken, f.o.b.	147.00	6.67
	Private	Glutinous, 10% broken, f.o.b.	161.00	7.30
June	Thailand			
	Government	Glutinous, 10% broken, f.o.b.	151.00	6.85
	Private	Glutinous, 10% broken, f.o.b.	161.00	7.30
	Spain	Valencia type, 25% broken, C&F	167.77	7.61
	Communist China	North China rice, f.o.b.	156.80	7.11
July	U.S. Southern	No.6, milled 50% broken, C&F	151.50	6.87
	Thailand	White rice, 5% broken, f.o.b.	158.45	7.19
		White rice, 10% broken, f.o.b.	151.33	6.86
		White rice, 15% broken, f.o.b.	141.93	6.44
	Communist China	North China rice, f.o.b.	156.80	7.11
		Central China rice, f.o.b.	146.00	6.62
	Uruguay	Japonica type, 25% broken, C&F	162.70	7.38
August	Communist China	North China rice	156.80	7.11
September-November	- No purchase			
December	Taiwan	Bon-rice, C&F	175.00	7.94
	Communist China	North China rice	159.60	7.24
	Italy	C&F	170.00	7.71

JAPAN: Comparison of prices paid by Government for imported and domestic rice, April 1951-December 1954

Period	Imported 1/					Domestic medium-grade brown rice
	United States			Burma 3/		
	California	Southern	2/ Thailand	Short-grain average	Long-grain average	
	(Dollars per 100 pounds)					
1951						
April-June	-	-	-	-	7.71	4.55
July-September	-	-	-	7.88	6.94	4.55
October-December	8.23	-	7.62	8.24	7.73	5.91
1952						
January-March	9.07	9.16	7.69	8.98	8.34	5.91
April-June	9.40	9.25	-	9.05	8.66	5.91
July-September	-	-	-	11.03	9.45	5.91
October-December	10.58	9.75	-	12.79	9.24	6.28
1953						
January-March	-	-	-	10.15	8.41	6.28
April-June	-	-	8.03	10.29	8.63	6.28
July-September	-	9.07	8.03	9.21	8.93	6.28
October-December	9.13	9.02	-	9.32	8.56	9.17
1954						
January	-	8.62	-	-	-	9.17
March	8.53	-	6.85	-	-	9.17
May	-	-	6.85	-	-	9.17
July	-	6.89	6.85	-	-	9.17
December	-	-	-	-	-	9.92

1/ C.i.f. or C&F prices. 2/ Government-to-government price. 3/ Average of Government and trade prices.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
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April 25, 1955

ASIA'S PRINCIPAL RICE IMPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

The accompanying tables show the trends in the last 2 decades of rice imports into the principal importing countries of Asia. While imports have increased to some extent above the immediate postwar level, the volume remains markedly below imports of prewar years.

Rice imports into the seven major importing countries of Asia in 1954 totaled approximately 7,000 million pounds of milled rice compared with 6,400 million pounds in the preceding year. Compared with imports before the war, they were 58 percent of the average of 12,375 million pounds imported in the 5 years of 1935 to 1939.

Major declines in 1954 compared with prewar years are in India, whose imports were only 43 percent of the former level, and in Malaya and Ceylon. In the case of India, however, the import in 1954 was higher than for any year since the prewar period. The 1954 import was influenced by a 1,985-million pound purchase from Burma, of which 1,495 million pounds were delivered in 1954 and the balance programed for 1955. The purchase was largely for the purpose of increasing Government stocks in the year in which rationing controls were being abolished. The purchase was on a concessional basis with a credit of about one-third of the purchase price applied against the war debt owed to India by Burma. Though gross imports of rice into Hong Kong were down sharply, after adjustment for re-exports, net imports for consumption were only moderately below those of prewar years.

One result of the shortage in world rice supplies at the end of World War II (1946) and the rapid rise in rice prices in these countries was the substitution of wheat and other cereals to help meet the food requirements of the consumers. Then, at the beginning of 1952, when the total rice production of the exporting countries of Asia began to return to the prewar pattern, the principal countries of production limited exports at acceptable prices to about two-thirds of export availabilities, which were exported under allocations and Government-to-Government contracts. The remainder was sold at high prices as a result of continued world shortages.

At that time Asia's importing countries turned to countries outside of Asia, especially the United States, to meet the immediate needs of the rice consumers. By the beginning of 1954, Asia's accumulated surpluses of deteriorated carryover stocks plus those of new crops began to exceed the effective demand of the importing countries, even at declining prices. If the total export availabilities of the surplus countries of the world at the beginning of 1955 were to move at prices attractive to importers, total rice imports into deficit countries in 1955 would be considerably larger than in any year since World War II and the temporary rice surpluses would be removed.

RICE (in terms of milled): Imports into principal importing countries of Asia, by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1947-54

Importing country and countries of origin	Average 1935-1939	1947	1948	1949	Average 1947-1949	1950	1951	1952	1953[1]	1954[1]
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Ceylon										
Burma	[2] 985	320	674	611	535	897	831	496	315	374
Indochina	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	0	0
Brazil	0	177	39	0	72	0	0	0	0	0
Thailand	202	0	23	119	47	140	0	34	0	0
Egypt	0	84	181	111	126	62	0	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	49	16	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	-	0	0	[3]	[3]	0	55	13	0	0
China	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	584	480
United States	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	134	5	0
Other countries	8	0	0	[3]	[3]	0	0[4]	86	0[5]	33
Total	1,218	581	917	890	796	1,099	886	894	904	887
India										
Burma	[6] 3,241	827	1,129	837	931	421	681	842	336	1,495
Indochina	219	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thailand	40	59	349	639	349	249	484	412	0	0
Pakistan	-	0	158	0	53	0	354	31	52	0
Egypt	0	67	155	198	140	120	11	0	0	0
China	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	331	0	0
Brazil	0	97	116	0	71	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	44	14	0	0	0	0	0
Other countries	1	72	52	2	42	0	0	1	37	0
Total	3,501	1,122	1,959	1,720	1,600	790	1,678	1,617	425	1,495
Malaya										
Burma	514	250	426	362	346	52	119	157	260	-
Indochina	72	0	49	6	18	26	117	79	88	-
Thailand	1,057	216	314	614	382	946	1,020	926	856	-
Brazil	0	39	40	0	26	0	0	0	0	-
Italy	0	0	0	22	7	0	25	0	0	-
Australia	0	18	15	18	17	0	0	0	0	-
Egypt	0	13	127	129	90	0	0	0	0	-
Philippines	0	0	37	0	12	0	0	0	0	-
Other countries	24	[3]	2	10	4	0	0	0	0	-
Total	1,667	536	1,010	1,161	902	1,024	1,281	1,162	1,204	-

RICE (in terms of milled): Imports into principal importing countries of Asia, by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1947-54 - Continued

Importing country and countries of origin	Average 1935-1939	1947	1948	1949	Average 1947-1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 1/	1954 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Japan										
Thailand	68	Data by	Data by	185	Data by	725	560	699	961	820
Burma	2	country	country	99	country	320	354	278	423	706
Taiwan	1,529	not	not	0	not	0	157	135	119	81
Korea	2,644	avail-	avail-	3/	avail-	198	0	0	0	0
United States	-	able	able	14	able	113	89	516	396	758
Egypt	0	"	"	0	"	54	384	0	0	0
Italy	0	"	"	0	"	0	19	239	61	150
Spain	0	"	"	0	"	0	0	103	85	130
Mexico	0	"	"	0	"	22	0	4	0	0
Belgium Congo	0	"	"	0	"	7	3	0	0	0
Iran	0	"	"	0	"	0	3/	3	45	0
Nicaragua	0	"	"	0	"	0	0	3	8	6
Uruguay	0	"	"	0	"	0	0	10	0	21
Portugal	0	"	"	0	"	0	0	3	21	0
Pakistan	0	"	"	0	"	0	3/	15	120	52
Brazil	0	"	"	0	"	0	13	0	7	0
Indochina	-	"	"	0	"	0	0	0	109	92
Ecuador	0	"	"	0	"	0	0	58	0	63
Peru	0	"	"	0	"	0	0	0	21	48
Communist China	0	"	"	0	"	0	15	0	0	98
Other countries	2	"	"	1	"	41	155	91	20	7/ 76
Total	8/ 4,245	6	124	299	143	1,480	1,749	2,157	2,396	3,101
Philippines										
Burma	0	0	9	43	17	0	0	66	0	0
Thailand	36	39	145	87	90	7	284	66	0	33
United States	3/	217	0	126	115	1	3/	7	0	0
Ecuador	0	20	51	41	37	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	16	24	13	0	0	0	0	0
Indochina	76	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Mexico	0	0	22	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
Other countries	5	0	22	0	8	0	1	0	0	0
Total	117	276	265	321	287	8	286	139	0	94

RICE (in terms of milled): Imports into principal importing countries of Asia, by country of origin, average 1935-39, annual 1947-54 - Continued

Importing country and countries of origin	Average 1935-1939	1947	1948	1949	Average 1947-1949	1950	1951	1952	1953 1/	1954 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Indonesia										
Burma	251	106	132	192	143	430	449	413	440	297
Thailand	250	96	181	209	162	152	273	497	120	104
Indochina	80	19	0	3/	6	0	116	148	88	102
United States	0	0	21	77	33	173	58	88	112	0
Brazil	0	0	42	0	14	0	0	344	0	0
Philippines	0	36	22	0	19	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	0	0	0	40	13	0	0	0	0	0
South America	0	0	0	21	7	0	0	5	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	3/	64	5	0
Taiwan (Formosa)	0	0	0	0	0	0	3/	40	0	0
Other countries	41	0	0	2	1	0	111 9/	74	24	0
Total	622	257	398	541	398	755	1,007	1,673	789	503
Hong Kong										
Burma	75	75	81	38	65	18	0	36	72	3/
Communist China	4	0	0	0	0	48	109	13	7	0
Indochina	464	11	27	2	13	22	44	26	35	13
Thailand	575	85	132	120	112	340	229	406	551	211
Macao	3/	0	0	0	0	6	19	0	3/	6
South America	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
United States	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	18	17	0
Egypt	0	20	9	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Other	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Total gross imports	1,122	191	249	160	200	434	408	522	687	230
Total 7 countries	12,492	2,969	4,922	5,092	4,326	5,590	7,295	8,164	6,405	7,000

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Including British India until 1937. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ 64 million pounds from other countries in Asia, and 21 million from other countries in America. 5/ 31 million pounds from Iran. 6/ Burma was separated from India in 1937, making India an importing country rather than an exporter. 7/ Includes 67 million pounds from Ceylon. 8/ Largely brown rice. 9/ Includes 40 million pounds from Portugal, and 22 million pounds from Spain.

Compiled from official sources and trade information available in reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad.

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FR 7-55 June 13, 1955

WORLD RICE CROP SECOND LARGEST ON RECORD

World 1/ rice production in 1954-55 (August-July) is now estimated at 261,200 million pounds, or 4.4 percent, less than the record harvest of the year before, according to the third estimate of the Foreign Agricultural Service. The 1954-55 crop is the second largest on record and 17 percent above the postwar (1945-46/49-50) average.

Rice production in Asia is down sharply from last year's large crop, and Europe's harvest is less. Output increased again in Africa and North America, and early indications point to a moderate increase in South America. A preliminary estimate of Oceania's crop is slightly less than a year earlier.

World rice harvested acreage is estimated at only 2 percent less than in 1953-54. In most areas the general upward trend in rice acreage continued in 1954-55, but unfavorable weather in some producing areas of Asia and South America prevented planting of all the intended acreage. Rice acreage in North America, Europe, and Africa reached a record level in 1954-55 and has increased every year since 1951-52; in South America acreage was down somewhat as dry weather prevented planting of some of the intended acreage.

Asia's land in rice during 1954-55 equals 90 percent of the world total, and the harvest, approximately 88 percent. Acreage was maintained or increased in Asian countries where climate permitted. Unfavorable weather, however, in India, Pakistan, Indochina, Thailand, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Malaya prevented sowing or resowing of large areas in rice. Yields per acre in Asian countries generally are from average to above-average, though not so high as in 1953-54.

Despite heavy floods in some areas in India and Pakistan, the rice acreage of these countries was the second largest on record, exceeded only by that of the year before. The per-acre yield in India was above average, but that of Pakistan was below. Production in both countries exceeded the relatively good crops of 2 years earlier.

Note: This third estimate of the 1954-55 crop is approximately the same as the second estimate (Foreign Crops and Markets, March 21, 1955), but recent crop revisions raise by 2 percent the estimate of world production in 1953-54.

1/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, average 1945-46/49-50, annual 1951-52 to 1954-55 (August-July) 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA															
British Honduras	3	2	2	2	2	1,133	1,600	1,650	1,500	1,250	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.0	2.5
Costa Rica	41	57	71	79	72	1,078	1,321	1,268	808	972	44.2	75.3	90.0	63.8	70.0
El Salvador	41	40	43	53	52	1,402	1,432	1,388	1,434	1,442	57.5	57.3	59.7	76.0	75.0
Guatemala	17	21	19	25	-	971	1,190	1,142	1,200	-	16.5	25.0	21.7	30.0	-
Honduras	31	28	27	30	-	735	714	930	833	-	22.8	20.0	25.1	25.0	-
Mexico	190	257	204	232	222	1,731	1,278	1,632	1,442	1,708	328.9	328.5	332.9	334.5	379.2
Nicaragua	28	31	61	85	35	1,286	1,384	1,241	1,395	1,571	36.0	42.9	75.7	118.6	55.0
Panama	124	162	169	196	203	1,169	1,168	1,211	1,249	1,084	145.0	189.2	204.7	244.8	220.0
United States	1,690	1,967	1,965	2,129	2,405	2,099	2,328	2,448	2,471	2,447	3,547.9	4,579.7	4,810.7	5,260.7	5,385.3
Cuba	114	145	156	209	220	1,075	1,772	1,776	1,794	1,545	122.6	257.0	277.0	375.0	340.0
Dominican Republic	100	113	133	131	137	1,207	1,265	1,217	1,244	1,241	120.7	143.0	161.8	162.9	170.0
Total	2,478	2,914	2,948	3,280	3,514	-	-	-	-	-	4,574.7	5,859.9	6,209.9	6,868.9	7,426.0
EUROPE															
France	7	40	54	48	44	2,536	3,582	3,685	3,169	2,955	18.1	143.3	199.0	152.1	130.0
Greece	9	48	53	43	53	2,167	2,573	3,113	3,372	3,774	19.5	123.5	165.0	145.0	200.0
Italy	305	386	430	434	442	4,357	4,534	4,767	4,747	4,525	1,328.9	1,750.0	2,050.0	2,060.0	2,000.0
Portugal	53	77	85	83	88	3,013	4,045	3,648	3,731	3,615	159.7	311.5	310.1	309.7	318.1
Spain	129	155	160	169	169	4,358	4,290	4,463	5,130	4,734	562.2	665.0	714.1	867.0	800.0
Total countries shown	510	713	789	790	811	-	-	-	-	-	2,098.3	3,009.7	3,454.8	3,566.8	3,478.1
Other Europe	49	109	134	160	175	-	-	-	-	-	103.2	235.0	260.0	330.0	320.0
Total Europe	559	822	923	950	986	-	-	-	-	-	2,201.5	3,244.7	3,714.8	3,896.8	3,798.1
ASIA															
Iran	544	476	544	618	620	1,598	1,653	1,708	1,780	1,871	869.3	787.0	929.0	1,100.0	1,160.0
Iraq	643	520	525	530	625	993	1,096	1,143	1,189	1,256	638.4	570.0	600.0	630.0	785.0
Syria	19	7	7	13	20	2,263	1,714	2,614	2,746	2,705	43.0	12.0	18.3	35.7	54.1
Turkey	56	75	121	123	115	2,905	2,869	2,598	2,911	3,166	162.7	215.2	314.4	358.1	364.1
Burma	8,500	9,620	10,080	10,070	10,200	1,235	1,420	1,444	1,357	1,449	10,500.0	13,664.0	14,560.0	13,660.0	14,780.0
Ceylon	950	1,010	988	1,102	1,170	1,263	1,138	1,265	1,311	1,239	1,200.0	1,200.0	1,250.0	1,445.0	1,450.0
India 3/	71,500	73,665	74,674	77,023	75,000	1,063	1,018	1,125	1,227	1,133	76,000.0	75,000.0	84,000.0	94,500.0	85,000.0
Indochina 4/:															
Cambodia	2,298	2,916	2,716	2,725	2,700	798	1,089	1,142	1,133	889	1,833.1	3,174.6	3,102.5	3,086.4	2,400.0
Laos	1,500	1,448	1,500	1,850	1,200	650	761	733	622	646	975.0	1,102.3	1,100.0	1,150.0	775.0
South Vietnam	3,037	3,183	3,333	3,808	3,820	1,103	1,311	1,257	1,144	1,204	3,349.2	4,173.3	4,188.7	4,355.9	4,600.0
Indonesia	15,070	15,629	16,234	16,625	16,500	1,281	1,393	1,420	1,525	1,455	19,300.0	21,775.0	23,060.0	25,350.0	24,000.0
Japan	7,100	7,423	7,422	7,367	7,507	3,484	3,338	3,663	3,066	3,329	24,734.5	24,774.3	27,188.5	22,590.2	24,987.8
Korea	2,676	2,262	2,280	2,750	2,750	2,211	2,493	2,807	2,564	2,618	5,916.4	5,640.0	6,400.0	7,050.0	7,200.0
Malaya	831	799	825	822	850	1,362	1,518	1,901	1,766	1,671	1,132.1	1,212.7	1,568.2	1,451.4	1,420.0

ASIA (Continued)															
Pakistan 3/	21,601	22,481	23,016	24,535	23,700	1,245	1,159	1,190	1,254	1,181	26,891.9	26,046.4	27,398.4	30,774.5	28,000.0
Philippine Islands 3/	4,909	6,388	6,561	7,216	6,986	992	977	1,056	972	964	4,872.0	6,238.7	6,931.4	7,015.8	6,736.2
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,638	1,955	1,931	1,947	1,798	1,829	2,270	2,339	2,597	2,572	2,996.7	4,438.4	4,517.5	5,055.5	4,625.0
Thailand	10,214	14,174	12,677	14,562	13,700	1,173	1,139	1,148	1,242	1,131	11,978.4	16,149.6	14,555.0	18,090.0	15,500.0
Total 5/	159,777	170,519	172,044	179,926	175,657	-	-	-	-	-	200,086.5	212,455.5	228,207.1	243,770.3	230,242.5
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	102	139	151	155	155	2,674	2,758	2,837	3,019	2,903	272.7	383.4	428.4	468.0	450.0
Bolivia	30	39	37	41	45	1,467	1,521	1,449	1,512	1,422	44.0	59.3	53.6	62.0	64.0
Brazil 3/	4,290	4,628	5,000	5,750	5,600	1,423	1,396	1,260	1,230	1,286	6,105.7	6,461.9	6,300.0	7,075.0	7,200.0
British Guiana	97	114	153	140	150	2,343	2,183	1,856	2,107	2,333	227.3	248.9	283.9	295.0	350.0
Chile	79	62	78	72	74	2,578	2,845	2,618	2,619	2,824	203.7	176.4	204.2	188.6	209.0
Colombia	300	391	408	420	425	1,342	1,407	1,437	1,429	1,459	402.6	550.0	586.4	600.0	620.0
Ecuador	203	147	200	165	150	1,768	1,739	1,750	1,515	1,733	359.0	255.7	350.0	250.0	260.0
Paraguay	14	25	25	25	28	2,043	1,352	1,676	1,412	1,786	28.6	46.3	41.9	35.3	50.0
Peru	120	146	163	161	127	3,022	3,873	3,834	3,430	3,661	362.6	565.5	625.0	552.3	465.0
Surinam	41	47	49	50	-	2,490	2,706	2,435	2,542	-	102.1	127.2	119.3	127.1	-
Uruguay	29	32	33	41	43	2,855	3,250	3,509	3,105	3,605	82.8	104.0	115.8	127.3	155.0
Venezuela	50	83	97	114	155	1,100	1,145	1,134	1,123	1,387	55.0	95.0	110.0	128.0	215.0
Total	5,355	5,853	6,394	7,134	7,002	-	-	-	-	-	8,246.3	9,073.8	9,218.7	9,908.8	10,163.2
AFRICA															
Belgian Congo	342	402	406	432	-	813	930	958	915	-	278.0	374.0	389.0	395.2	-
Egypt	732	507	388	439	633	3,347	2,696	2,937	3,274	3,394	2,450.3	1,366.7	1,139.6	1,437.5	2,464.6
French Morocco	1	5	9	16	16	700	3,400	3,500	3,994	3,562	0.7	17.0	31.5	63.9	57.0
Madagascar	1,431	1,668	1,725	1,750	-	1,176	1,350	1,310	1,429	-	1,682.5	2,252.2	2,260.0	2,500.0	-
Total	7,110	7,445	7,526	7,773	7,915	-	-	-	-	-	7,919.3	7,881.3	7,743.7	8,602.9	9,321.8
OCEANIA															
Australia	31	36	35	39	39	4,042	3,556	4,757	4,382	4,359	125.3	128.0	166.5	170.9	170.0
Fiji	32	35	36	-	-	1,609	1,563	1,725	-	-	51.5	54.7	62.1	-	-
Total	98	107	107	113	111	-	-	-	-	-	212.5	221.7	268.6	271.9	267.0
World total 5/	175,377	187,660	189,943	199,176	195,185	-	-	-	-	-	223,240.8	238,736.9	255,362.8	273,319.6	261,218.6

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Planted acreage. 4/ Estimates for Center and North Vietnam included in world totals only. 5/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and U.S.S.R.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

Rice acreage increased in Japan, and production increased considerably above the poor crop of 1953, even though yields were below average. Korea maintained the large rice acreage of the year before, and production is reported to have increased. Taiwan's acreage and crop harvested in September were at a record level, but lack of water early this year prevented all the April crop from being sown; therefore Taiwan's crop will be less than the previous year's record.

Indications are that total production of the two principal exporting countries of Asia, Burma and Thailand, is down about 1,500 million pounds of rough rice (450,000 metric tons milled) from the year before. Rice from Burma's crop reportedly is appearing on the market in larger quantities than anticipated, and subsequent crop revisions may be upward.

Offsetting this increase in exportable supplies is a reduced harvest in Thailand, where drought not only prevented sowing of all the planned acreage, but also retarded the crop. Final movement to market may prove the output to be smaller than presently indicated.

Drought in Cambodia and Laos, Indochina, resulted in a serious decrease in rice production. The acreage of South Vietnam is reported about the same as in 1953-54, and good yields have been reported. Export supplies available from that area are reduced by needs in Cambodia and by an increase in domestic needs as a result of a large number of immigrants from North Vietnam.

Rice acreage in Europe, nearly 900,000 acres, showed a continued expansion, having increased 20 percent from 1951-52, and 76 percent from the postwar average. Unfavorable weather in some countries reduced the crop below last year. In Spain, floods early in the season destroyed a large part of the rice area. Italy harvested a record acreage, but the crop is reported to be less than last year. Sowing of all the intended acreage in France was not possible, and per-acre yields declined from recent years. Acreage in Portugal and Greece was maintained at a high level, and record crops were harvested.

Reports indicate that rice acreage in Africa is being increased in many countries; though statistics for most areas are unavailable. Water supplies in Egypt from the Nile River made possible the planting and harvesting of the largest crop since 1950. Weather was favorable for rice production, and record yields per acre were harvested. Indications with respect to Madagascar's crop are that Government plans envisage acreage increases in some areas, but that weather this year limited production. The harvest, therefore, probably is smaller than the bumper crop of 1953-54.

Total rice acreage in the Western Hemisphere is estimated at 10,500,000 acres compared with 10,400,000 the year before, and with an average of 7,800,000 acres in the postwar average period. Average acreage in the prewar (1935-36/39-40) period was 4,400,000 acres. An increase of more than 200,000 acres in North America this season was partly offset by a decline in the total acreage of South America.

The record production of 1954-55 in the Western Hemisphere of 17,600 million pounds of rough rice compares with 16,800 million pounds in the year before, and with the postwar average of 12,820 million pounds. Both North America and South America have record crops. Prior to World War II

(1935-36/39-40) an average of 6,800 million pounds was produced annually in the Western Hemisphere.

The principal gain in the acreage of North America was in the United States, where rice area increased 276,000 acres, or 13 percent, and near-record yields per acre resulted in the largest crop in history. Tentative estimates of Cuba's crop show some increase in acreage. However, poorer yields than earlier expected from the second crop resulted in the total harvest being down from the year before.

Though Mexico's acreage in rice was not so large as in 1953-54, the yields per acre are the highest in several years, and a near-record crop was harvested. A marked increase in rice acreage occurred in the Dominican Republic, and a record crop was produced in that country.

Weather was unfavorable for production, however, in Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, and British Honduras. Nicaragua decreased rice acreage sharply, and even though yields were favorable, the harvest was less than half of the preceding year.

Dry weather in central Brazil again prevented the planting of all the intended acreage. Although it is too early in the season to know definitely the amount harvested, present indications point to a per-acre yield not quite so low as in the 2 preceding years. This would result in a larger production than last year, and if yields were to approach average or better, a still larger crop would be produced. The decrease in output of recent years has occurred in central and northern Brazil, where the crop is unirrigated. Production in Rio Grande do Sul, the State from which rice is exported in surplus years, is forecast at approximately 1,900 million pounds of rough rice, or about the same as the preceding year's record crop. This compares with the previous record of 1,634 million pounds 2 years earlier, and a postwar average of 1,250 million pounds. In recent years the increased amount that usually would be available for export has been shipped to central Brazil, especially Sao Paulo, where droughts have restricted production.

Rice output increased this year in the other countries of South America except Peru, and possibly Argentina and Surinam, where upward crop revisions may be reported later. The largest increase occurred in Venezuela, where a combination of Government projects to increase the crop and exceptionally favorable weather for rice growing resulted in a very large gain in production.

Record acreages and production are reported also in Bolivia, Colombia, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Rice acreage in Chile exceeded that of the preceding year, and production was the largest in several years. Ecuador's crop was larger than in the year before, even though a smaller acreage was planted.

Water shortages in Peru resulted not only in a failure to plant all the planned acreage, but also in an acreage cut of about 21 percent from the year before. Although production is considerably less than in the preceding year, it is 28 percent more than the postwar average.

Rice acreage in Australia is unchanged and good weather has resulted in a crop about as large as the record of a year earlier.

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WORLD RICE TRADE UP SLIGHTLY IN 1954

International trade in rice in 1954 increased 3 percent as compared with the preceding year, but continued below the postwar peak of 1952. Exports, including re-exports, from all countries totaled 10,250 million pounds in terms of milled rice compared with 9,930 million pounds in 1953 and 11,300 million pounds in 1952. Trade was approximately half the 20,000 million pounds exported annually prior to World War II (average 1936-40).

Exporting countries: Despite a small gain in total exports, the general trend in rice trade was somewhat downward. A pronounced increase in shipments of Burma was primarily responsible for the gain in total trade, but rice exports declined in many countries. Exports from Asia increased 1,122 million pounds, of which 1,060 million pounds came from Burma.

Exports from Thailand of 2,607 million pounds include considerable quantities of coarse ground brokens, mostly inedible, included in total imports of some importing countries of Asia. This is a favorable aspect of Thailand's trade, as it represents a disposal of around 400 million pounds of inferior rice from previously reported stocks. Actually, exports of rice of a quality comparable with the 2,945 million pounds exported in 1953 was only 2,214 million pounds, a decline of 15 percent.

Rice exports of the Western Hemisphere countries were only two-thirds of the year before, and exports and re-exports from the countries of Europe declined 22 percent. Export availabilities from Egypt's crop for the first time in several years resulted in an increase in Africa's exports, but those in other countries decreased, and the total exported from the surplus countries of Africa was less than half the average in the immediate postwar years (1946-50).

The United States had the largest reduction in volume exported, despite having an increase in exportable supplies. Exports were down more than 500 million pounds, or approximately 30 percent. Dullness in the world rice market was responsible also for a decline in exports of other countries, as Taiwan, Korea, Italy, Ecuador, Nicaragua, and countries that in recent years have been producing rice for export at higher prices than prevailed in 1954. Portugal's small 1953-54 crop prevented rice from being the export commodity that it has been in other postwar years.

Rice (in terms of milled): International trade, average 1946-50, annual 1952-54

Continent and country	Average 1946-50		1952		1953 1/		1954 1/	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA:								
British Honduras	-	2,644	-	2,003	-	2,377	-	3,664
Canada	1,026	42,747	8,885	53,429	100	61,895	1,242	72,887
Costa Rica	626	1,936 2/		8	3,344	1	-	-
El Salvador	3,598	108	66	585	4	561 3/	3,322	3/ 11,996
Guatemala	279	856 2/		92	2,451	-	-	-
Honduras 4/	2,294	466	85	5	1,783	20	-	-
Mexico	47,314	1,560	4,410	90	4	9 2/		520
Nicaragua	10,643 2/		11,087	19	40,486	1	22,485	-
Panama Republic	4	6,713	10	6,023	-	1	-	-
Panama Canal Zone	-	3,968	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	962,169	3,170	1,763,535	20,261	1,736,760	21,986	1,224,831	28,424
Bahamas	-	2,647	-	2,688	-	4,480	-	-
Barbados	-	16,330	-	16,912	-	21,392	-	-
Bermuda	-	529	-	441	-	441	-	-
Cuba	1	540,796	-	474,694	-	560,600	-	416,000
Curacao	-	5,498	-	6,393	-	6,393	-	-
Dominican Republic	2,187	1,776	1	1,117	3,502	-	99	-
Guadeloupe	88	12,165	-	18,501	-	14,722	-	3/ 11,338
Haiti 5/	824	442	1	422	54	243	-	332
Jamaica	-	16,486	-	31,024	-	34,598	-	6/ 22,363
Other British West Indies	-	11,440	-	11,023	-	11,023	-	-
Martinique	-	5,388	-	6,407	-	4,501	-	7/ 4,173
Trinidad and Tobago		26,347	141	31,393	50	43,975	54	32,162
Total	1,031,053	704,512	1,788,221	687,530	1,788,538	793,219	1,255,733	663,609
EUROPE:								
Austria	7	22,621	0	50,279	-	55,545	33	54,404
Belgium and Luxembourg	603	47,354	14,804	50,234	16,299	60,144	13,393	79,956
Denmark	0	2,030	163	18,292	17	14,415	1,792	17,760
Finland	0	3,441	-	21,891	17	15,079	-	39,969
France	1,001	78,731	5,726	69,281	19,705	67,307	1,567	142,523
Germany	-	88,967	3,570	129,118	3,314	204,939	1,592	175,394
Greece	-	29,596	1,593	9,538	45,985	1,531	408	9,104
Iceland	-	1,064	-	905	-	1,005	-	-
Ireland	-	3,113	-	5,807	-	6,273	-	4,952
Italy	182,919	746	607,244	2	536,767	4	433,654	-
Malta	-	1,463	-	1,409	-	2,191	-	-
Netherlands	11,906	52,742	41,539	62,337	60,653	88,590	53,305	164,732
Norway	0	3,395	0	1,102	-	13,131	12	8,223

Portugal	4,394	18,066	49,273	2,343	23,911	1,415	0	2,116
Spain 8/	118	1,401	125,898	24	122,521	7	6/ 133,289	-
Sweden	82	11,496	190	12,425	15	21,321	-	17,066
Switzerland	40	47,191	13,139	25,664	50	53,177	38	39,857
United Kingdom	3,120	83,431	1,445	119,480	780	118,985	-	153,233
Yugoslavia	-	2,116	-	4,278	-	5,721	-	10,580
Total	204,278	515,181	865,246	613,409	832,959	773,764	651,083	961,919
ASIA:								
Aden	5,600	11,067	7,716	11,684	11,243	19,400	-	-
Cyprus	-	3,947	-	3,031	-	6,217	-	3,252
Iran 9/	46,281	111	137,092	75	108,024	42	10/ 128,057	-
Iraq	5,201	3,244	4,134	2,026	2,798	606	20,000	
Israel and Palestine	-	11/ 13,000	-	8,757	-	7,033	-	7,443
Jordan	-	11,244	-	19,180	-	17,857	-	14,000
Lebanon	1,537	19,738	2,205	19,621	-	10,582	-	57,300
Syria			0	18,289	981	12,813	-	
Saudi Arabia	-	37,543	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey	4	447	0	1,159	27,128	2,063	19,266	7/ 509
Total Near East	58,623	140,341	151,147	193,822	150,174	186,613	187,223	211,504
North Borneo	-	26,121	-	31,696	-	23,296	-	105,000
Brunei	-	4,563	-	11,986	-	9,661		
Sarawak	-	36,330	-	63,291	117	48,526		
Burma	2,147,120	-	2,923,522	-	2,140,137	-	3,200,000	-
Ceylon	1,812	810,906	1,269	894,433	5,100	904,185	32,989	886,916
China	2,314	501,306	425,000	-	600,000	-	580,000	-
French India	-	12,994	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hong Kong	17,240	284,834	828	521,990	16,660	687,582	10,779	230,141
India 13/	860	1,244,174	-	1,617,280	-	425,600	-	1,494,752
Indochina:								
Cambodia	247,261	83	167,730	-	214,336	-	423,272	-
South Vietnam			329,645	-	232,030	-	365,397	-
Indonesia	1,458	433,462	2	1,688,300	-	789,441	-	570,461
Japan	-	388,372	2,454	2,157,246	11,359	2,378,957	403	3,151,348
Korea	39,526	50,782	-	430,000	-	550,000	-	79,524
Macao	9,735	56,074	-	-	-	28,880	-	-
Malaya	21,951	810,577	214,932	1,162,460	97,140	1,204,517	108,779	708,098
Pakistan 12/ 13/	73,190	35,410	181,635	-	132,345	-	-	-
Philippine Islands	44,496	237,105	3	139,160	11,762	2	14,550	94,697
Portuguese India	-	22,355	-	22,707	-	22,707	-	-
Ryukyu Islands	-	6/ 75,728	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taiwan	50,524	25,126	232,043	2	130,939	11,026	79,524	-
Thailand	1,919,197	-	3,148,169	-	2,945,828	-	2,607,522	-
Total Far East	4,577,184	5,108,852	7,632,232	8,973,551	6,538,753	7,275,380	7,623,715	7,561,937
Total Asia	4,635,807	5,249,193	7,783,379	9,167,373	6,688,927	7,461,993	7,810,938	7,773,441

(Continued next page)

Rice (in terms of milled): International trade, average 1946-50, annual 1952-54 (Contd.)

Continent and country	Average 1946-50		1952		1953 1/		1954 1/	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
SOUTH AMERICA:								
Argentina	3,344	95	5,349	0	27,505	0 14/	10,523 14/	0
Bolivia	-	17,569	-	23,529	-	18,754	-	-
Brazil	321,078	-	378,764	-	6,144	20,890	0	0
British Guiana	51,496	-	61,992	-	89,336	-	82,701	-
Chile	25,854	-	11	8,959	7,814	12,389	4,006	-
Colombia	3,718	5,352	17,313	61	41,978	219	422	67,529
Ecuador	125,520	-	124,607	-	93,650	-	42,890	-
French Guiana	-	1,636	-	1,845	-	1,219	-	1,321
Paraguay	227	178	0	0	10,000	0	-	-
Peru	0	15,051	0	31,580	71,870	37	-	44
Surinam	10,132 2/		19,252 2/		16,411	0	-	-
Uruguay	12,266	113	28,146	-	33,347	0	32,349	-
Venezuela	-	52,007	-	5,515	-	14,650	0	3,786
Total	553,635	92,001	635,434	71,489	398,055	68,158	205,391	101,680
AFRICA:								
Algeria	275	6,888	609	8,344	37	10,077	235	7,540
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	181	8,376	0	5,344	-	3,086	-	6,821
Belgian Congo - Ruanda-Urandi	9,926	64	868	36	2,080	168	614	124
Kenya	162	6,402	186	11,201	1,517	12,667 6/	123 6/	20,108
Uganda			0	1,962	0	8,076	0 6/	10,179
Nyasaland	366	-	950	-	3,143	-	-	-
Tanganyika	4,785	1,320	749	2,726	113	167	0 6/	1,745
Zanzibar	37	3,917	1,880	13,940	-	18,023	-	-
British Somaliland	-	2,822	-	4,189	-	2,205	-	-
Gambia	-	3,562	-	11,312	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone	88	23	670	-	1,425	12	115	10,273
Cape Verde Islands	-	1,406	-	994	-	1,122	- 6/	1,060
Egypt	548,243	27	35,475	97	1,470	88	101,400	-
French Cameroun	-	3,015	130	6,353	45	11,129	340	3,298
French Equatorial Africa	-	3,912	-	4,799	-	2,304	-	2,183
French Morocco	12	4,814	8,504	556	11,354	1,294	25,684	-
French Somaliland	-	1,543	-	1,984	-	3,307	-	-
French Togoland	-	2	-	1,455	-	789	-	2,341
French West Africa	-	75,083	-	120,142	-	161,255	-	151,011
Gold Coast	-	5,612	-	3,764	-	5,039	-	5,996
Liberia	-	3,199	-	4,480	1	4,510	1	25,974

Libya: Tripolitania	-	4,012	-	5,000	-	-	-	-
Madagascar	3,688	6,006	89,506	1	99,203	3	32,815	9,429
Mauritius	375	65,265	-	91,979	-	129,107	-	-
Mozambique	3,081	14	5,010	0	14,370	0	-	-
Nigeria	251	27	318	198	421	48	112	856
Angola	10,088	47	18,592	2/	4,114	32	1,556	-
Portuguese Guinea	3,592	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	-	3,974	-	4,625	-	3,940	-	3,688
Reunion	-	33,668	-	44,304	-	61,028	-	39,182
Seychelles Islands	-	2,426	-	5,297	-	1,904	-	-
Somalia	-	200	-	1,984	-	2,646	-	-
Southern Rhodesia	181	2,020	91	2,947	65	1,902	-	-
South West Africa	-	290	-	661	-	661	-	-
Spanish Guinea	-	4,982	-	6,173	-	10,141	-	-
Spanish Morocco	-	4,785	-	1,102	-	1,984	-	-
Tunisia	-	1,420	-	684	-	1,951	-	3/ 2,353
Union of South Africa	707	27,230	882	63,147	-	2,840	-	51,339
Total	586,038	296,853	167,920	439,624	142,858	487,199	243,495	510,161
OCEANIA:								
Australia 4/	61,257	146	53,495	236	79,425	-	-	-
New Guinea	-	12,302	-	16,535	-	16,940	-	-
British Solomon Islands	-	2,008	-	3,086	-	2,866	-	-
Fiji	-	675	-	2,240	-	1,008	-	-
French Oceania	-	1,996	-	3,360	-	2,654	-	6/ 2,557
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	-	705	-	-	-	1,764	-	-
New Caledonia	-	4,739	-	5,952	-	5,071	-	3/ 4,195
New Hebrides	-	2,249	-	4,630	-	2,866	-	3,408
New Zealand	79	3,803	148	5,691	3	6,171	-	4,914
Pacific Islands (U.S. Trust)	-	2,297	-	2,205	-	1,984	-	-
Western Samoa	-	669	-	1,460	-	594	-	-
Papua 4/	-	5,613	-	8,752	-	8,818	-	-
Total	61,336	37,202	53,643	55,247	79,428	50,736	80,000	52,874
World total	7,072,147	6,894,942	11,293,843	11,034,672	9,930,765	9,635,069	10,246,640	10,063,684

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500 pounds. 3/ January-September. 4/ July-June. 5/ October-September. 6/ January-November. 7/ January-October. 8/ Shipments to Canary Islands and other possessions are excluded. 9/ March 21-March 20. 10/ March 21, 1954-February 19, 1955. 11/ Less than 5-year average. 12/ Pakistan included in India to August 15, 1947. 13/ May-April. 14/ January-August.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments and reports of United States Foreign Service officers. Includes milled, broken, semimilled unconverted and rough rice in terms of milled. Exports include reexports.

Rice exports in South America were the smallest since World War II. Even though Brazil had surplus supplies of around 400 million pounds, that country is reported to have exported no rice in 1954. Exports also declined from British Guiana, Chile, Ecuador, and Uruguay.

Some increase is reported, however, in the rice exports of Cambodia and South Vietnam, Indochina. Although statistics for Pakistan are not available, estimated exports exceeded those of 1953. Rice export increases occurred in the Near East countries, Iran and Iraq. Spain exported slightly more than in 1953, and Australia's exports were about the same as in the year before.

Importing countries: Increased imports of the two largest importers, Japan and India, brought the total of those countries to more than half the world rice imports. India's imports came from Burma, while those of Japan originated in countries of Asia, Europe, North America, and South America. Rice was imported into the Philippine Republic to build up stocks, whereas in the year before domestic production was sufficient for all requirements.

On the other hand, imports into several of the countries usually considered to be among Asia's heaviest importers of rice -- Malaya, Ceylon, Indonesia, and Hong Kong -- were the lowest in several years. Reasons for the declines are (1) increased production, (2) consumption of surplus stocks, and (3) withholding of purchases because of relatively high prices in exporting countries, especially in the first part of the year.

Total rice imports into Europe increased 24 percent compared with 1953, and were the largest since World War II. Even so, imports of nearly 1,000 million pounds were only 30 percent of prewar imports. Largest gains were in France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Belgium and Luxembourg, and imports increased also in Denmark, Finland, and Yugoslavia. On the other hand, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland took less rice than in 1953. On account of heavy exports in 1953, Greece imported a significant volume of rice for domestic consumption before the 1954 crop was marketed.

The principal reason for a decline in imports in North America was an expansion in the rice production of Cuba in 1953 and 1954, which decreased the import requirements. Rice imports increased in Canada, British Honduras, Costa Rica, and some of the British West Indies. Because of a small crop in 1953, rather than exporting rice, Colombia imported a relatively large amount.

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August 15, 1955

BURMA'S RICE EXPORTS AHEAD IN 1955

Burma exported approximately 1,700 million pounds of milled rice from January through June 1955, an increase of 3 percent over the 1,654 million pounds exported in the first half of 1954. Rice exports during calendar year 1955 are expected to reach at least 3,600 million pounds of all types of rice, including bran, which will exceed shipments in 1954, and will be the largest in postwar years.

BURMA: Rice exports, by country of destination, January-June, 1955, with comparisons

Country of destination	Average 1936-40	1952	1953	1954 1/	January-June 1/ 1954	January-June 1/ 1955
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Malaya-Singapore	508	228	236	28	10	2/
Hong Kong	2/	46	63	5	2	2/
British Borneo	2/	33	8	0	0	2/
United Kingdom	128	121	16	14	9	2/
Ceylon	807	527	331	391	267	179
India	3,532	844	331	1,406	249	560
Indonesia	156	421	434	313	225	2/
Japan	3/ 233	338	355	692	692	493
Ryukyu Islands	2/	13	67	89	89	67
Portuguese India	2/	0	9	11	8	2/
Mainland China	2/	0	0	0	0	168
U.S.S.R. Satellites .	2/	0	0	0	0	78
Africa & Middle East	2/	221	119	108	58	95
Other Europe	497	16	23	4/ 84	38	2/
Mauritius	61	39	98	72	3	13
Philippines	2/	67	0	0	0	2/
British West Indies .	2/	9	11	0	0	2/
West Germany	2/	0	0	7	2	36
Other countries	582	1	3	2	2	19
Total	6,504	2,924	2,104	3,222	1,654	1,708

1/ Preliminary. 2/ If any, included in "other countries". 3/ To Japan, Korea and Taiwan. 4/ 56 million pounds to Netherlands, 17 million to Belgium, and 11 million pounds to Finland.

Compiled from official and unofficial sources.

Also in the first half of 1955, about 360 million pounds of damaged rice, fine brokens and bran were exported. Destinations of this rice are not yet published, but it is known that approximately 135 million pounds were sold by the Government, principally to Europe; and 225 million pounds by the private trade, primarily to Hong Kong. This is mostly milled rice that has been held in storage for some time and is now being sold at reduced prices for industrial uses and animal feed. East Germany reportedly is to purchase in the last half of 1955, about 220 million pounds of low-grade rice for industrial purposes.

Present indications are that approximately 1,550 million pounds of all types of rice will be exported during the last half of 1955. Little cash is expected to be realized from these sales, however, since most shipments will be on a barter basis. Reportedly (1) West Germany and Hungary are negotiating with Burma for rice in exchange for merchandise, (2) sales to Israel were for bartered goods, (3) Indonesia has agreed to take 110 million pounds (50,000 tons) in exchange for rubber, tapioca, copra, coffee, and spices, (4) the Philippine Republic is being invited to exchange sugar for rice, (5) rice exports to Mainland China are payable with 20 percent Pounds Sterling, 20 percent in goods from Eastern Europe, and 60 percent in merchandise from China, and (6) the U.S.S.R. has contracted for 336 to 448 million pounds (150,000 to 200,000 long tons), with 20 percent payable in Pounds Sterling, and the remainder on an open account barter basis.

The following prices fixed in 1955 rice sales agreements between Burma and purchasing countries are f.o.b. Rangoon, for the variety and grade known as Ngasein Small Mills Special (about 42 percent broken), with differential prices for other types and qualities.

The agreement with Japan was at the base price of £45 per long ton ($5.62 per 100 pounds), with the understanding that the rice be principally of high-grade quality at prices comparing with quotations for comparable grades on other markets. Ceylon rice purchases in 1955 so far have been at £42 per ton ($5.25 per 100 pounds) payable in convertible sterling. The Ryukyu Islands agreement and the agreement with Poland for 1954-55 crop are also at that price. Purchases by Mauritius were at £40 per ton ($5.00 per 100 pounds) payable in convertible sterling. Old milled rice, damaged in storage, has been selling for £19 per long ton ($2.38 per 100 pounds) and fine brokens and bran at £17 per ton ($2.12 per 100 pounds).

Although the State Agricultural Marketing Board has disposed of large quantities of old-stock, damaged milled rice, it still has on hand stocks of paddy principally from the 1953-54 crop. Rice milled from these stocks reportedly contains 6 to 8 percent yellow grains, which is objectionable to most purchasers. Another disadvantage is that deterioration in Burma's milling equipment results in an unusually large percentage of broken grains for which there is now poor demand.

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UNITED STATES RICE EXPORTS DECLINE IN 1954-55

United States rice exports in the 1954-55 marketing year (August-July) were 9,848,000 bags of 100 pounds each, in terms of milled rice. Exports declined 37 percent, being 5,900,000 bags less than the 15,748,000 bags exported in the preceding season. Shipments were the smallest since 1951-52, when a record 17,239,000 bags were exported.

The decrease is attributed primarily to a sharp reduction in the volume sent to Japan and Cuba, the principal importers of United States rice in recent years. Combined exports to those countries were 5,780,000 bags less than the 13,290,000 bags shipped in 1953-54. Exports declined also to Korea, Canada, Venezuela, Colombia, and Netherlands West Indies.

Rice exports during 1954-55 by classifications were as follows (1,000 bags): rough, 703 (457 in terms of milled); milled rice, containing not more than 25 percent whole kernels, 1,386; and milled rice, containing more than 25 percent whole kernels, 8,005.

Rough rice exports of 703,500 bags were less than the previous year's record of 846,300 bags. The principal reason for this decline was the smallest export to Canada in 5 years. Rough rice exports increased to other countries, including Cuba, Venezuela, Liberia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti and Panama.

Principal destinations of milled rice, containing not over 25 percent whole kernels were Cuba, Belgium and Luxembourg, Canada, Netherlands and Trieste. Exports of this type to Cuba totaled 649,000 bags, an increase of 88 percent as compared with 345,000 bags in 1953-54.

Milled rice, containing not more than 25 percent whole kernels comprised 19 percent of United States exports to Cuba, while rough rice accounted for 3 percent, and milled rice, containing more than 25 percent whole kernels came to 78 percent of the total.

Table 1. - RICE: United States exports, by country of destination, and by classification, August-July, 1954-55 1/

Country of destination	Rough in terms of milled	Milled		Total
		Not over 25 percent whole	Over 25 percent whole	
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
North America:				
Canada	262,327	92,600	204,733	559,660
Mexico	1,469	50	507	2,026
Guatemala	45	0	0	45
British Honduras	175	0	33,004	33,179
El Salvador	130	0	0	130
Honduras	0	5,975	23,919	29,894
Nicaragua	0	0	60	60
Costa Rica	715	0	0	715
Panama	1,758	0	0	1,758
Canal Zone	0	200	391	591
Bermuda	0	0	3,034	3,034
Bahamas	0	0	405	405
Jamaica	106	672	120	898
Leeward Islands	0	0	144	144
Cuba	102,375	649,245	2,639,539	3,391,159
Haiti	975	0	122,716	123,691
Netherlands Antilles	0	50	38,144	38,194
French West Indies	0	70	0	70
Total	370,075	748,862	3,066,716	4,185,653
South America:				
Colombia	6,032	40,855	158,151	205,038
Brazil	38	0	0	38
Peru	0	0	51	51
Venezuela	78,328	1,000	4,640	83,968
Total	84,398	41,855	162,842	289,095
Total Western Hemisphere	454,473	790,717	3,229,558	4,474,748
Europe:				
Austria	0	23,320	0	23,320
Belgium & Luxembourg	0	344,297	115,962	460,259
Denmark	0	5,000	672	5,672
East Germany	0	0	5,201	5,201
West Germany	0	28,994	8,724	37,718
France	0	0	48	48
Greece	0	0	5,434	5,434
Ireland	0	1,208	15,284	16,492
Italy	0	0	4,720	4,720
Netherlands	0	69,073	1,706	70,779
Sweden	0	5,104	67,108	72,212
Switzerland	0	5,332	48,077	53,409
Trieste	0	58,054	0	58,054
United Kingdom	0	0	880	880
Total	0	540,382	273,816	814,198

Continued

Table 1. - RICE: United States exports, by country of destination, and by classification, August-July 1954-55 1/ - Continued

Country of destination	Rough in terms of milled	Milled		Total
		Not over 25 percent whole	Over 25 percent whole	
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
Asia:				
Arabian Peninsula	0	0	500	500
Hong Kong	0	0	180	180
India	0	0	48	48
Israel	0	850	3,479	4,329
Japan	0	110	4,124,722	4,124,832
Korea	0	0	150	150
Lebanon	0	0	2,222	2,222
Nonsei & Nonpo Islands, n.e.s.	0	0	4,150	4,150
Philippines	0	24,200	1,032	25,232
Saudi Arabia	0	0	135,662	135,662
Taiwan	0	0	50	50
Total	0	25,160	4,272,195	4,297,355
Oceania:				
Trust Territory of the Pacific	0	1,633	17,791	19,424
Total	0	1,633	17,791	19,424
Africa:				
Belgian Congo	0	0	169	169
French Morocco	43	220	16	279
Liberia	2,535	26,660	189,567	218,762
Union of South Africa	0	499	9,156	9,655
Total	2,578	27,379	198,908	228,865
Other	2/ 205	2/ 400	2/ 12,874	2/ 13,479
World total	457,256	1,385,671	8,005,142	9,848,069

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Starting with January 1954, "other" includes shipments valued at less than $500 when the number of such shipments to country is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

Table 2. - RICE (in terms of milled): United States exports to specified countries, averages 1935-36 to 1954-55, annual 1953-54 and 1954-55 (August-July) 1/

Country and continent	Average 1935-36 to 1939-40	Average 1940-41 to 1944-45	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	Average 1950-51 to 1954-55	1953-54 2/	1954-55 2/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	126	347	403	523	633	560
British Honduras	3/	5	13	20	17	33
British West Indies	1	38	97	34	6	5
Cuba	1,507	3,142	4,923	5,021	4,755	3,391
Haiti	1	1	3	27	2	124
Netherlands Antilles	2	5	9	36	53	38
Venezuela	7	22	76	187	215	84
Bolivia	5	2	12	3	5	0
Colombia	4	3/	1	104	314	205
Other countries	112	56	84	23	27	35
Total	1,765	3,618	5,621	5,978	6,027	4,475
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	79	0	73	187	206	460
France	32	14	11	3/	0	3/
Greece	89	24	109	104	11	5
West Germany	11	0	14	14	29	38
United Kingdom	78	380	1	3/	1	0
Netherlands	50	43	3	17	12	71
Sweden	33	46	3/	15	1	72
Switzerland	10	46	32	52	57	53
U.S.S.R.	0	270	9	0	0	0
Other countries	59	13	86	31	23	115
Total	441	836	338	420	340	814
Asia:						
Saudi Arabia	3/	3	80	120	130	136
Ceylon	0	4	0	278	0	0
Indonesia	3/	3/	646	582	0	0
Korea, Republic of	0	0	98	4/ 1,663	4/ 590	3/
Japan	3/	1	279	4,484	8,538	4,125
Philippines	5	2	1,136	19	3/	25
China	3/	3/	796	0	0	0
Ryukyu Islands	0	0	0	123	0	0
Other countries	1	9	60	46	25	11
Total	6	19	3,095	7,315	9,283	4,297
Total Oceania	1	10	5	14	17	19
Liberia	3/	38	36	81	67	219
Other Africa	1	45	1	5	6	10
Other	0	0	0	5/ 4	5/ 8	5/ 14
Total World	2,214	4,566	9,096	13,817	15,748	9,848

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Adjusted to include all programs of the Department of Defense and the International Cooperation Administration. 5/ Starting with January 1954, "other" includes shipments valued at less than $500 when the number of such shipments to country is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

Table 3. - RICE (in terms of milled): United States exports to specified countries, 1935-36 to 1952-53 (August-July) 1/

Country and continent	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	72	60	147	195	156	280
British Honduras	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
British West Indies	2/	2/	2/	2/	2	2/
Cuba	333	378	2,033	2,395	2,395	3,420
Netherlands Antilles	2	1	2	2	3	3
Argentina	0	17	143	0	0	2/
Bolivia	3	0	17	3	0	0
Chile	84	7	186	38	2/	63
Colombia	1	2/	2/	1	16	2/
Venezuela	2/	2/	2	3	27	13
Other countries	5	6	31	22	34	20
Total	500	469	2,561	2,659	2,633	3,799
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	39	28	151	133	46	0
France	28	40	85	1	5	0
Germany	28	8	14	2	0	0
Greece	83	41	162	126	32	0
Netherlands	10	13	118	95	16	0
Sweden	24	4	33	30	74	75
Switzerland	0	0	0	3	45	0
United Kingdom	46	58	74	108	106	2/
Other countries	27	13	64	97	94	18
Total	285	205	701	595	418	93
Asia:						
Saudi Arabia	0	0	2/	2/	2/	0
Ceylon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indonesia	2/	0	0	0	0	2/
Philippines	3	1	2	13	6	8
China	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Korea	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	2/	0	0	0	2/	2
Other countries	1	2/	2/	2/	5	2
Total	4	1	2	13	11	12
Oceania	2/	2/	2/	2/	5	2
Liberia	0	0	0	0	2/	0
Other Africa	2	2	1	2/	1	1
Total world	791	677	3,265	3,267	3,068	3,907

Continued

Table 3. - RICE (in terms of milled): United States exports to specified countries, 1935-36 to 1952-53 (August-July) 1/ - Continued

Country and continent	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	207	502	382	364	300	243
British Honduras	0	2	0	21	27	10
British West Indies	43	6	110	30	96	22
Cuba	3,506	2,469	2,984	3,330	3,355	4,650
Netherlands Antilles	3	7	8	6	8	6
Venezuela	75	17	5	1	2	4
Bolivia	8	0	0	0	2/	2/
Colombia	0	0	0	0	2/	2/
Other countries	168	1	14	24	78	15
Total	4,010	3,004	3,503	3,776	3,866	4,950
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	0	0	0	0	9	1
France	0	0	0	69	26	2/
Greece	0	0	49	69	6	1
West Germany	0	0	0	0	2/	2/
United Kingdom	0	1,119	605	179	2/	0
Netherlands	0	0	0	213	2/	2/
Sweden	156	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Switzerland	157	2/	0	71	2/	2/
U.S.S.R.	6	449	549	348	46	0
Other countries	20	4	8	14	49	10
Total	339	1,572	1,211	963	136	12
Asia:						
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	15	7	32
Ceylon	0	0	0	22	0	0
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	601	0
Korea, Republic of	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	2/	0	0	0	0	1
Philippines	2	0	0	0	1,862	2,541
China	1	0	0	0	648	492
Other countries	2/	2/	11	31	8	190
Total	3	2/	11	68	3,126	3,256
Total Oceania	7	13	13	16	7	1
Liberia	42	17	49	83	39	57
Other Africa	1	131	90	2/	2/	2/
Total world	4,402	4,737	4,877	4,906	7,174	8,276

Continued

Table 3. - RICE (in terms of milled): United States exports to specified countries, 1935-36 to 1952-53 (August-July) 1/ - Continued

Country and continent	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	545	457	469	381	443	601
British Honduras	8	2	17	23	22	3
British West Indies	112	136	121	24	54	81
Cuba	5,267	5,223	6,119	6,965	5,118	4,876
Haiti	2	10	2	2	3	2
Netherlands Antilles	2	12	19	25	25	41
Venezuela	5	148	220	354	196	86
Bolivia	0	0	62	2/	4	6
Colombia	1	2	1	2/	2/	2/
Other countries	46	84	200	15	31	7
Total	5,988	6,074	7,230	7,789	5,896	5,703
Europe:						
Belgium & Luxembourg	1	75	277	161	57	52
France	24	3	2/	2/	2/	2/
Greece	94	221	224	295	209	2/
West Germany	2	46	24	1	1	2/
United Kingdom	2	1	2/	0	0	0
Netherlands	1	3/	12	2	0	0
Sweden	2/	2/	0	2/	2/	2/
Switzerland	2/	49	110	89	21	38
U.S.S.R	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other countries	101	215	60	8	3	10
Total	225	610	707	556	291	100
Asia:						
Saudi Arabia	130	153	76	104	91	138
Ceylon	0	0	0	2/	741	647
Indonesia	10	886	1,733	9	1,799	1,100
Korea, Republic of	447	42	0	271	2,821	3/4,631
Japan	1	24	1,367	326	5,430	3,999
Philippines	2/	1,257	18	0	71	2/
China	2,028	811	0	0	0	0
Ryukyu Islands	0	0	0	0	0	616
Other countries	5	31	75	6	9	184
Total	2,621	3,204	3,269	716	10,962	11,315
Total Oceania	3	5	6	3	13	19
Liberia	22	56	7	23	73	22
Other Africa	1	2	2	3	4	2/
Total world	8,860	9,951	11,221	9,090	17,239	17,159

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Less than 500 bags.
3/ Adjusted to include all programs of the Department of Defense and the International Cooperation Administration.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

Table 4. - United States: Exports of rough rice, by country of destination, 1950-51 to 1954-55
(August-July)

Country of destination	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 1/	1954-55 1/
	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags	Bags
North America:					
Canada	436,481	415,840	586,284	573,517	403,580
Mexico	10	800	60	5,940	2,260
Guatemala	0	201	0	48	70
El Salvador	0	0	172	523	200
Honduras	0	0	0	606	0
British Honduras	0	0	0	0	270
Nicaragua	0	273	70	280	0
Costa Rica	0	0	0	297	1,100
Panama	0	0	1,624	1,410	2,705
Cuba	8,296	23,562	43,333	153,960	157,500
Jamaica	0	0	0	254	163
Haiti	240	461	77	300	1,500
Dominican Republic	0	0	11	0	0
Total	445,027	441,137	631,631	737,135	569,348
South America:					
Colombia	100	0	97	2,244	9,280
Venezuela	23,497	29,525	40,933	106,060	120,504
Ecuador	0	180	0	0	0
Brazil	0	0	0	0	58
Total	23,597	29,705	41,030	108,304	129,842
Belgium & Luxembourg	0	0	0	265	0
French Morocco	0	0	0	0	66
Union of South Africa	0	0	0	600	0
Liberia	0	0	0	0	3,900
Other	268	0	0	0	2/ 314
Total world	468,892	470,842	672,661	846,304	703,470

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Starting with January 1954, "other" includes shipments valued at less than $500 each when the number of such shipments to a country is few.

Source: Bureau of Census.

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WORLD RICE CROP LARGE IN 1955-56

World 1/ rice production in 1955-56 (August-July) is forecast at 270,000 million pounds of rough rice, an increase of 3 percent over the 261,300 million pounds in the preceding year, according to the first estimate of Foreign Agricultural Service. This estimate is 2.5 percent below the record harvest of 276,900 million pounds in 1953-54.

The production increase is attributed to higher yields per acre in some areas as well as to some extension in acreages. World rice acreage is forecast at 199 million acres, compared with 196 million in the year before, and with the record of 202 million acres in 1953-54.

Largest crop increases are in Asia, which will harvest 88 percent of world output. Countries having very good yields are Japan and Thailand, and crops in Burma, Pakistan, and the Philippine Republic exceed those of last year.

Good European crops bring the total for that Continent above last year's, but slightly less than the record production of 1953. Africa has prospects for the largest rice crop in history.

Total production in the Western Hemisphere is forecast at about the same level as last year. A reduction in North America will be offset by a larger crop in South America, assuming average yields per acre in the Southern Hemisphere.

Good rice crops are anticipated in the principal exporting countries of Asia. Although it is too early to make a final estimate of the November crop in Thailand, the trade estimate of an exportable surplus of 1,400,000 metric tons of rice indicates that country is expecting a very good harvest. There was no carry-over from previous crops in Thailand.

Burma also plans to export a large volume of rice in 1955. Efforts have been made to increase production. Weather conditions at the outset of the rainy season were favorable, and a rise in output is expected.

Taiwan's second (November) crop of 1955 is very good. This harvest represents approximately half of total production, and about 50 percent will be harvested in the first crop of 1956 (July).

1/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, average 1945-46/49-50, annual 1952-53 to 1955-56 (August-July) 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55 2/	1955-56 2/	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55 2/	1955-56 2/	Average 1945-46 to 1949-50	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55 2/	1955-56 2/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA															
Costa Rica	41	71	79	72	-	1,078	1,268	808	972	-	44.2	90.0	63.8	70.0	-
El Salvador	41	43	53	52	-	1,402	1,388	1,434	1,442	-	57.5	59.7	76.0	75.0	-
Honduras	31	27	30	27	32	735	930	833	741	906	22.8	25.1	25.0	20.0	29.0
Mexico	190	204	232	222	245	1,731	1,632	1,442	1,708	1,714	328.9	332.9	334.5	379.2	420.0
Nicaragua	28	61	85	35	-	1,286	1,241	1,395	1,606	-	36.0	75.7	118.6	56.2	-
Panama	124	169	196	200	-	1,169	1,211	1,249	1,050	-	145.0	204.7	244.8	210.0	-
United States	1,690	1,965	2,129	2,405	1,815	2,099	2,448	2,471	2,447	2,768	3,547.9	4,810.7	5,260.7	5,885.3	5,023.3
Cuba	114	156	209	219	215	1,075	1,776	1,794	1,712	1,721	122.6	277.0	375.0	375.0	370.0
Dominican Republic	100	126	126	137	-	1,207	1,284	1,293	1,241	-	120.7	161.8	162.9	170.0	-
Total	2,478	2,941	3,275	3,512	2,969	-	-	-	-	-	4,574.7	6,209.9	6,868.9	7,457.0	6,696.7
EUROPE															
France	7	54	47	47	51	2,586	3,694	3,504	2,766	3,627	18.1	199.5	164.7	130.0	185.0
Greece	9	53	43	53	40	2,167	3,113	3,372	3,774	3,375	19.5	165.0	145.0	200.0	135.0
Italy	305	430	434	442	420	4,357	4,767	4,747	4,299	4,524	1,328.9	2,050.0	2,060.0	1,900.0	1,900.0
Portugal	53	85	81	88	93	3,013	3,648	3,823	3,615	3,871	159.7	310.1	309.7	318.1	360.0
Spain	129	160	169	169	165	4,358	4,463	5,130	4,734	5,152	562.2	714.1	867.0	800.0	850.0
Yugoslavia	7	7	11	19	20	1,414	2,371	3,127	2,995	2,750	9.9	16.6	34.4	56.9	55.0
Total countries shown	510	789	785	818	789	-	-	-	-	-	2,098.3	3,455.3	3,580.8	3,405.0	3,485.0
Other Europe	49	134	160	175	207	-	-	-	-	-	103.2	260.0	330.0	320.0	395.0
Total Europe	559	923	945	993	996	-	-	-	-	-	2,201.5	3,715.3	3,910.8	3,725.0	3,880.0
ASIA															
Iran	544	544	618	620	600	1,598	1,708	1,780	1,871	1,183	869.3	929.0	1,100.0	1,160.0	710.0
Iraq	643	525	530	625	600	993	1,143	1,189	1,256	917	638.4	600.0	630.0	785.0	550.0
Syria	19	7	13	15	11	2,263	2,614	2,746	2,667	2,727	43.0	18.3	35.7	40.0	30.0
Turkey	56	121	123	115	-	2,905	2,598	2,911	3,166	-	162.7	314.4	358.1	364.1	-
Burma	8,500	10,080	10,070	10,000	10,200	1,235	1,444	1,357	1,450	1,451	10,500.0	14,560.0	13,660.0	14,500.0	14,800.0
Ceylon	950	988	1,102	1,159	1,170	1,263	1,265	1,313	1,337	1,282	1,200.0	1,250.0	1,447.0	1,550.0	1,500.0
India 3/	71,500	74,674	77,032	75,000	76,000	1,063	1,125	1,227	1,133	1,118	76,000.0	84,000.0	94,500.0	85,000.0	85,000.0
Indochina 3/4/:															
Cambodia	2,298	2,716	2,725	2,700	-	798	1,142	1,133	889	-	1,833.1	3,102.5	3,086.4	2,400.0	-
Laos	1,500	1,500	1,850	1,200	-	650	733	622	646	-	975.0	1,100.0	1,150.0	775.0	-
South Vietnam	3,037	3,333	3,808	3,820	-	1,103	1,257	1,144	1,204	-	3,349.2	4,188.7	4,355.9	4,600.0	-
Indonesia	15,070	16,234	16,625	16,500	-	1,281	1,420	1,525	1,461	-	19,300.0	23,060.0	25,350.0	24,100.0	-
Japan	7,100	7,422	7,367	7,507	7,600	3,484	3,663	3,066	3,329	3,947	24,734.5	27,188.5	22,590.2	24,987.8	30,000.0
Korea	2,676	2,280	2,750	2,750	-	2,211	2,807	2,564	2,618	-	5,916.4	6,400.0	7,050.0	7,200.0	-
Malaya	831	825	822	866	840	1,362	1,901	1,766	1,692	1,702	1,132.1	1,568.2	1,451.4	1,465.1	1,430.0

ASIA (Continued)															
Nepal	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,200	3,400	781	765	806	688	706	2,500.0	2,600.0	2,900.0	2,200.0	2,400.0
Pakistan 3/	21,601	23,016	24,535	23,700	23,800	1,245	1,190	1,254	1,193	1,197	26,889.2	27,398.4	30,774.5	28,266.0	28,500.0
Philippine Republic	4,909	6,561	6,537	6,562	6,670	992	1,056	1,073	1,076	1,074	4,872.0	6,931.4	7,015.8	7,061.0	7,161.8
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,638	1,931	1,947	1,781	1,900	1,829	2,339	2,597	2,505	2,579	2,996.7	4,517.5	5,055.5	4,461.4	4,900.0
Thailand	10,214	12,677	14,562	11,500	14,000	1,173	1,148	1,242	1,122	1,214	11,978.4	14,555.0	18,093.2	12,900.0	17,000.0
Total 5/	162,977	175,431	182,928	176,006	179,856	-	-	-	-	-	202,635.3	230,798.7	247,165.5	230,290.7	238,757.2
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	102	151	155	138	-	2,674	2,837	3,019	2,917	-	272.7	428.4	468.0	402.6	-
Bolivia	30	37	41	45	-	1,467	1,449	1,512	1,422	-	44.0	53.6	62.0	64.0	-
Brazil 3/	4,290	5,000	5,760	5,600	-	1,423	1,260	1,236	1,286	-	6,105.7	6,300.0	7,120.0	7,200.0	-
British Guiana	97	153	140	150	155	2,343	1,856	2,143	2,400	2,355	227.3	283.9	300.0	360.0	365.0
Chile	79	78	72	74	68	2,578	2,618	2,619	2,824	2,574	203.7	204.2	188.6	209.0	175.0
Colombia	300	408	420	425	-	1,342	1,437	1,429	1,459	-	402.6	586.4	600.0	620.0	-
Ecuador	203	200	165	150	-	1,768	1,750	1,515	1,733	-	359.0	350.0	250.0	260.0	-
Paraguay	14	25	25	28	-	2,043	1,676	1,792	1,964	-	28.6	41.9	44.8	55.0	-
Peru	120	163	161	127	-	3,022	3,834	3,430	3,661	-	362.6	625.0	552.3	465.0	-
Surinam	41	49	50	52	-	2,490	2,435	2,542	2,827	-	102.1	119.3	127.1	147.0	-
Uruguay	29	33	40	43	-	2,855	3,509	3,403	3,605	-	82.8	115.8	136.1	155.0	-
Venezuela	50	97	114	155	135	1,100	1,134	1,123	1,387	1,111	55.0	110.0	128.0	215.0	150.0
Total	5,355	6,394	7,143	6,987	7,172	-	-	-	-	-	8,246.3	9,218.7	9,977.1	10,152.8	10,945.0
AFRICA															
Belgian Congo	342	406	432	-	-	813	958	915	-	-	278.0	389.0	395.2	-	-
Egypt	732	388	439	633	715	3,347	2,937	3,274	3,894	3,909	2,450.3	1,139.6	1,437.5	2,464.7	2,795.0
French Morocco	1	9	16	16	-	700	3,500	3,994	3,856	-	0.7	31.5	63.9	61.7	-
Madagascar	1,431	1,725	1,750	-	-	1,176	1,310	1,429	-	-	1,682.5	2,260.0	2,500.0	-	-
Total	7,105	7,566	7,861	8,014	8,090	-	-	-	-	-	7,911.4	7,724.4	8,677.9	9,411.6	9,667.0
OCEANIA															
Australia	31	34	39	40	-	4,042	4,897	4,382	5,000	-	125.3	166.5	170.9	200.0	-
Total	98	106	113	112	110	-	-	-	-	-	212.5	268.6	271.9	297.0	-
World total 5/	178,572	193,361	202,265	195,624	199,193	-	-	-	-	-	225,781.7	257,935.6	276,872.1	261,334.1	270,210.9

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Planted acreage. 4/ Estimates for Center and North Vietnam included in world totals only. 5/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and U.S.S.R.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

Floods in India this year again have reduced rice yields. Efforts to increase acreage under improved methods apparently resulted in some gain in total area planted. Unusual floods, however, in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Orissa, and to a lesser extent in West Bengal, Assam, and other areas resulted in inundation of considerable acreage in rice. Though it is too early to assess the final damage to the crop, which will be harvested mainly in December, indications are that production may not be less than in the preceding year.

Pakistan's rice crop, also harvested principally in December, is forecast slightly larger than that of last year.

Rice acreage planted in Japan is estimated officially at 7,617,000 acres, an increase of 1 percent above that of 1954. Bumper yields were reported during the October harvest. The outturn of the Japanese crop is not certain at this time, but with information available, the crop is placed at a rounded figure of 30,000 million pounds of rough rice (10,940,000 metric tons in terms of brown rice). This compares with the previous record of 29,111 million pounds (10,617,000 tons brown rice) in 1953. At this estimate, yields per acre are unusually high.

Though drought in the Philippine Republic again prevented planting of all intended acreage in rice, increases in new areas resulted in a small acreage gain above that of the preceding year. So far, indications point to a yield per acre about the same as last year. Thus, the 1955 crop, which is harvested principally in December, is expected to be slightly larger than a year earlier.

Ceylon's second (September) 1955 rice crop was above average, and plans for the February harvest are at a continued high level. Malaya's rice acreage is expected to be at about the same rate as in the last 3 years. Most of the crop will be harvested in the first 4 months of 1956.

Reduced water supplies from mountain sources in Iran and Iraq resulted in crop decreases of 39 and 30 percent, respectively, below last year's large crops. As a result, exportable supplies from Iran will decline sharply from recent years, and exports from Iraq are now prohibited.

Rice acreage in Europe was maintained at the high level reached in postwar years. Good crops were harvested in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and France. Floods in Greece late in the season damaged some of the rice crop, so that yields per acre were reduced somewhat.

Egypt is harvesting another large crop this year, and therefore is expected to have more rice than last year for export. An estimate of Australia's 1955-56 rice acreage being planted is not yet available; the yields per acre harvested in the April-May 1954-55 crop were unusually high, and a large upward crop revision was reported.

The 1955 rice crop of North America declined for the first time in 5 years. This is due mainly to a reduction in the acreage of the United States; the trend is noticeable also in Cuba and the Dominican Republic. A record acreage is reported in Mexico, and so far crop conditions are reported about average for the harvest from August through January.

Much of South America's rice crop is only now being planted and will not be harvested until well into 1956. Under average weather conditions, the harvests of Brazil and Peru will exceed the crops of last year. Venezuela's acreage is down, and yields per acre are substantially less than the exceptional yields of 1954.

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